# OBAMA PUSHES STIMULUS PACKAGE, PG 5

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## Close call for paramedics on slick roads

**EMS** Severe road conditions led to a near-miss involving four Calgary EMS paramedics, while they were travelling back from Edmonton on Thursday.

The quartet, including the union president, stopped at a motor-vehicle collision involving some of their EMS counterparts to tend to the situation, when a large truck lost control and went into the ditch, stopping just feet away from the off-duty paramedics.

The paramedics quickly assessed the situation and determined their safety was in jeopardy and moved the three people involved in the collision to a safe location in their two personal vehicles.

They later met up with responding emergency crews to treat the patients.

METRO CALGARY

NHL

## Flames burn it up

TODD KOROL/REUTERS

New York Islanders goalie Joey MacDonald reaches for the puck in front of Calgary's David Moss during the third period Thursday at the Saddledome. The Flames won 5-2. See story on page 7

# Gang's new safety net

## Experts say public outings providing cover for members

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

**Calgarians have a right to be outraged warring gang members are starting to use the public as their "safety net" in the escalating gang war, according to a crime expert.**

Just over a week after innocent bystander Keni Su'a was killed in a New Year's Day gang shooting, concerns are growing about the rising frequency of shootings in public areas.

University of Calgary gang expert Cathy Prowse said while gang members targeted by rivals formerly hid to avoid being shot, they are now frequenting public places as a "false sense of security."

"It's almost becoming like a safety net for them, and unfortunately intended targets can have unintended consequences," Prowse, a former police officer, warned. "It's very unsettling and unnerving."

Prowse said while gang members might believe they're safer in public, that's not always the case.

"If the opportunity arises and someone really wants to take them out, they don't have any regard for where they are or who is around, and they will take their chance," she added.

**"It's very unsettling and unnerving."**
Cathy Prowse

That said, Prowse believes the last thing gang members want is to kill an innocent person in the crossfire.

"They don't want the unwanted attention from the public, and the police, and the politicians," Prowse said.

"It turns the heat up on them."

Calgary police spokesman Kevin Brookwell said while there used to be more anonymity among gangs, it seems more and more they are crossing that line into public viewing.

"(Gang members) have shown they have no regard whatsoever for who or what is around when an opportunity arises, and Calgarians have a right to be outraged," he said.

Prowse said the violent situation won't go away overnight.

"It won't stop until one side takes out the other, or they end up in jail, or they just quit the gang life. It's not worth it," she added.

ShareYourViews
calgaryletters@metronews.ca

## RCMP say guns were for criminals

**FOUND** Guns destined for the hands of criminals have been intercepted at a Southern Alberta border crossing, according to RCMP.

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) announced Thursday border officials found 10 semi-automatic handguns hidden in a vehicle returning to Canada at the Coutts crossing in southern Alberta, just 80 km southeast of Lethbridge.

RCMP Sgt. Patrick Webb said while the guns were intercepted at a southern border, authorities haven't confirmed the intended destination, only that it was in Canada.

But, it is believed their passage into Canada was for illicit reasons.

"These guns were definitely destined to go to criminals. There has been some speculation by some people that they were intended for gangs … but that is total speculation at this point," Webb said.

And when asked if it was possible the weapons would end up in the hands of gangs, Webb said, "Gangs are criminals, too."

Authorities also found 11 high-capacity ammunition clips and 300 rounds of ammunition.

CBSA acting director for southern Alberta Bill Axten said authorities did a great job searching for the weapons before finding them in hidden panels.

Adrian Le Mon Barnes, 30, is facing 45 charges in connection with the seizure including possession of firearms and trafficking unauthorized importation of firearms.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/METRO CALGARY

**Canada** pg 4

## Sect is being persecuted, leader says

**Movies** pg 10

## Battle of the brides

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**Impaired driving charges down from last year**

During the month of December, the Calgary police service laid 41 impaired-driving related charges against 24 people, and issued 42 24-hour licence suspensions during their holiday checkstop campaign. The tally is down from more than 100 a year ago. METRO CALGARY

# Local

## Hog heaven for bikers

**The Calgary Motorcycle Show is roaring into the city this weekend with cool bikes and related exhibits. The show features motorbikes, ATVs, scooters and more. The event runs from Friday until Sunday at the Round-Up Centre at Stampede Park. For more information, please visit www.sportsmenshows.com.**

METRO CALGARY

## Convict forced to wear bracelet

**CRIME** A high-risk offender in Calgary was ordered by a judge to wear an electric ankle bracelet on Thursday.

A Calgary judge approved the monitoring bracelet for Gregory Venn, 45, who has spent most of his adult life in prison for sexually assaulting women.

The bracelets are traditionally used for parolees.

METRO CALGARY

## News in brief

**THEATRE** For one night each, One Yellow Rabbit theatre company is turning Centini, Teatro and Catch into a stage for High Performance Chefs, where top chefs will serve food presented – or performed – in unexpected ways. METRO CALGARY

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

**Video** Prominent Canadians condemn Ottawa's stance on Gaza conflict at **metronews.ca/canada**

**Video** Michael Ignatieff vows low- and middle-income tax cuts to boost the economy at **metronews.ca/canada**

# Council gets into bag debate

## Retailers are worried about higher costs if ban passes

JENNIFER HILLIKER
for Metro Calgary

**A motion being brought to city council Monday to phase out plastic bags in Calgary is being met with mixed responses from retailers and consumers.**

The biggest problem some retailers see is getting consumers to change their habits.

"People like the flexibility of plastic bags," said John Radostits, a member of the Independent Retail Grocers Association. "Many use them as garbage bags, and would be upset that their free garbage bags would be eliminated."

Another problem Radostits sees is higher prices for consumers resulting from a higher cost for paper or recyclable bags that retailers would have to pay. Either that, or consumers will be paying per bag, which some environmentalists say is not a bad thing.

ROBIN KUNISKI FOR METRO CALGARY

**The plastic-bag debate will head to city hall Monday, but some retailers are already educating customers on options for plastic bag use.**

"It's absolutely critical that there's a price put onto bags," said Natalie Odd, executive director of Clean Calgary. "Then people will adapt very quickly to bringing their own bags."

Grocery stores like Sobeys have already taken the initiative to encourage customers to use recyclable bags. Their goal is to reduce the use of plastic bags by 50 per cent in the next couple of years.

"If the city of Calgary were to ban the use of plastic bags, we would support that," said Sobeys representative Michael Lupien. "But we're still wanting to offer our customers choice. People appreciate the convenience of plastic bags, and they will often reuse them again in our store."

# Province's homicide rate doubles to an eight-year high

JENNIFER HILLIKER
for Metro Calgary

The rate of homicides in Alberta in 2008 is the highest it has been in eight years, after having its lowest rate in 2007.

According to a recent report by the RCMP, the number of homicides in Alberta, outside urban areas, more than doubled from 2007 to 2008. There were 53 homicides in 2008 compared with 23 in 2007.

"Even we are scratching our heads as to why the number went down and why it went up again," said Wayne Oakes, RCMP media relations officer. "There is no rhyme or reason why homicides occur."

Oakes said police look for ways to give people skills to solve conflicts without aggression, and they are continuing to apply initiatives and increase efforts to prevent crime.

# Being active helps your brain: Expert

ALICIA FOX
for Metro Calgary

**RESEARCH** Aging is no reason to sit at home on the couch; in fact, it may be counterproductive if you want to stay sharp.

According to a two-year study done by Marc Poulin, women with active lifestyles scored higher in cognitive functioning and vascular responses while lowering their blood pressure, regardless of age.

"These results extend results of other studies," Marc Poulin, the lead researcher, said. He added, "the interesting thing about our study is our multi-disciplinary approach."

Published in the journal, Neurobiology of Aging, the study took a random sample of 42 women from Calgary and divvied them up into groups — those who led active versus inactive lifestyles.

Merceda Schmidt, a 91-years-young participant in the study who stays active both in her community and lifestyle said, "the more you sit, the more you want to sit."

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ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Snow built up along Calgary Transit bus routes is causing trouble for some riders. Transit officials say ensuring safe, efficient service is a top priority and crews are working to clear problem stops.

# Bus-stop blues

## Riders irked by knee-high snow banks

ALICIA FOX
for Metro Calgary

**Wading through knee-high banks of snow to board a bus is not ideal, but it's what some transit customers have come to expect as normal.**

Jeremy Adam, who takes Route 2 from Mount Pleasant to the downtown daily, said that he sees many people finding creative ways to dodge the snow bank created by snowploughs along the sidewalk.

"You (jump) on top of the snow bank and get into the bus," he said, adding that by the time he gets to the stop enough people have been there to create a well-packed path through the snow.

**"Having to climb through muddy, salt-ridden, 50-foot snow banks is unfair."**
Tasha Cloutier

"The bus tries to stop by the pathway."

Tasha Cloutier also takes transit frequently and says it's beyond frustrating.

"Going to work, dressed in good dress pants and attire and having to climb through muddy, salt-ridden, 50-foot snow banks is unfair," she said.

"It's more of an issue of poor snow management in Calgary," Adam said.

Kelsey Strachan with the roads department said there have been 2,000 truckloads cleared of the 52 cm that fell in December.

"We're working on removing the remainder of that snow," she said, adding that bus routes are priority.

Ron Collins of Calgary Transit said crews are doing their best to clear pathway areas to ease boarding for their customers.

"We are going to everything we can to make it easier for our customers," Collins said.

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**Canadian army seeks bullets for Soviet-made guns**

The military is looking for more than two million rounds of ammunition for Soviet guns, a curious purchase experts say appears destined for the weapons of Afghan soldiers under the charge of the Canadian army in Kandahar. The majority of ammo sought is for the Afghan army's main rifle, the AK47. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES**

# Canada

## Métis win hunting-rights case

**A man has won a five-year legal battle against the Manitoba government with a landmark court ruling on Métis hunting rights. Provincial court Judge John Coombs ruled Thursday that Will Goodon, charged with hunting without a licence, was within his rights to shoot the ringneck duck in October 2004, as the hunting area fell within traditional Métis hunting grounds.** **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

# Blackmore claims religious persecution

FERNANDO CARNEIRO
fernando.carneiro@metronews.ca

**"Polygamy is not about religion. It's about the power of men over women and children."**
Nancy Mereska

**One of the men facing polygamy charges in the British Columbia community of Bountiful said Thursday he's being persecuted for his religion.**

Winston Blackmore, who allegedly has more than 20 wives, told reporters in Creston, B.C., that he was being charged for political reasons. He said the timing of the charges was intended to help the current B.C. government "grandstand" ahead of this spring's provincial election.

Polygamy is illegal in Canada, a ban that Blackmore claims violates his religious freedom as guaranteed by Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Nancy Mereska, co-ordinator of Stop Polygamy in Canada, said she "absolutely rejects" Blackmore's claim.

"Polygamy is not about religion," she said. "It's about the power of men over women and children."

She added that Part 1 of the Charter says the rights listed are subject to the laws of Canada.

"They can have whatever religious belief they want, but when they practice a belief that is against the law they are committing a crime."

Mereska said she believes that more charges are coming.

"I can see this going the Supreme Court of Canada in about seven years, and I'm confident the Supreme Court is going to uphold our laws against polygamy."

**ShareYourViews**
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## Ottawa **Offer rejected**

TRACEY TONG/METRO CANADA

**Ottawa residents showed their support as union members arrived Thursday to vote on the city's latest contract offer. Workers voted 64.4 per cent against the offer after Labour Minister Rona Ambrose ordered the union to allow a vote.**

## Flaherty says deficit will be 'substantial'

**ECONOMY** Canada will run a "substantial" budget deficit in the fiscal year starting on April 1, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Thursday, citing planned stimulus measures to respond to the world economic downturn.

"Canada has certain needs and Canadians have certain needs in this extraordinary time of global recession. To fulfill those needs, we are going to have to run a substantial deficit, which we will do," Flaherty said. **REUTERS**

## **News** in brief

**OILSANDS** Canadian oilsands producers, under fire from environmental critics, do not fear increasing legal challenges to their operations while they try to polish their public image, executives said Thursday.

**BOMBERS** RCMP have cleared eight people identified as potential suspects in attacks on natural gas facilities in northern British Columbia, a police spokesman said Thursday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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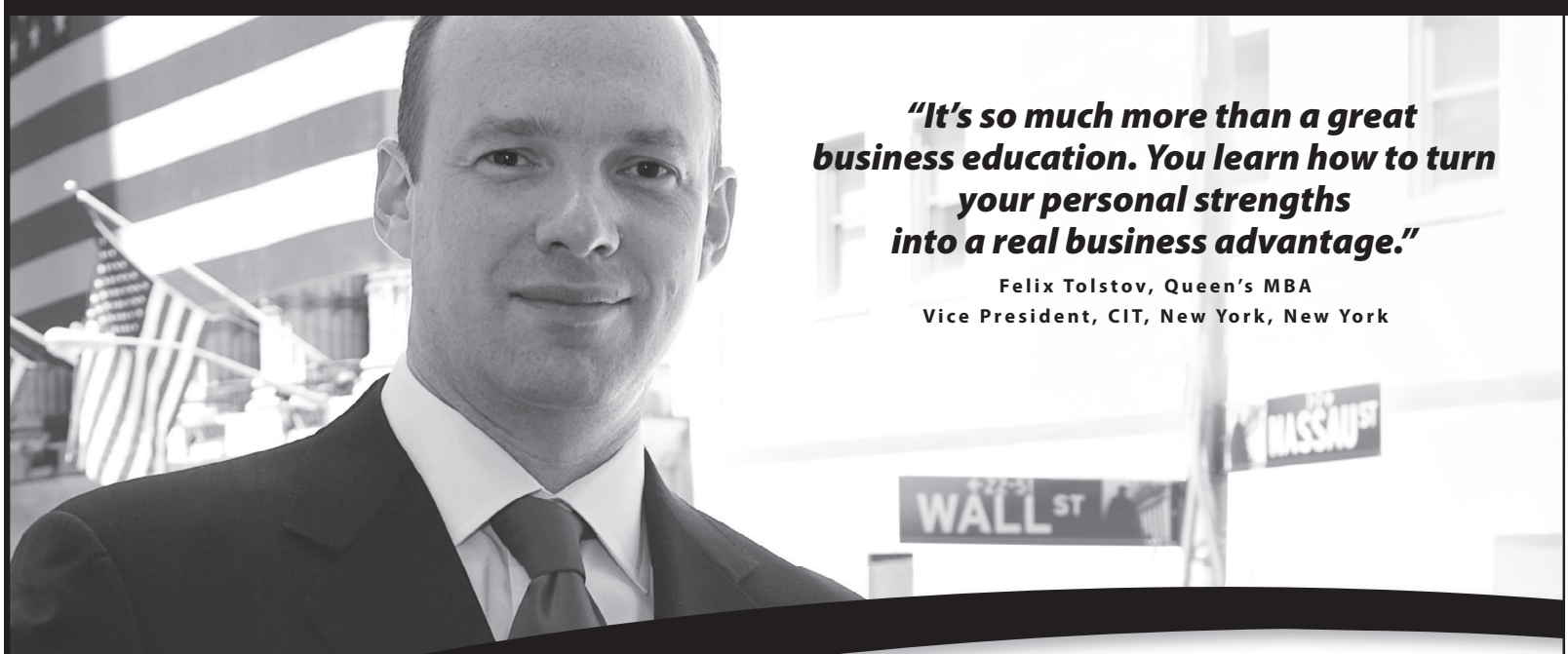


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**Russia eyes restoration of gas supply to Europe**
Russia's state-controlled gas monopoly said yesterday it would restore supplies to Europe through Ukraine, cut off after a dispute between Moscow and Kiev, as soon as international monitors are in place. The gas cutoffs have left hundreds of thousands of people in the Balkans without gas, forced factories to shut down and disrupted deliveries as far west as France and Germany. REUTERS



# World/Business

## Obama pushes stimulus

**U.S. president-elect Barack Obama warned Thursday the U.S. economy could stay mired in recession for years without bold action, and he urged lawmakers to work day and night to pass a massive stimulus plan.**

Obama, who takes office Jan. 20, promised to set a new economic course and to quickly toughen the financial regulatory system.

Barack Obama

"I don't believe it's too late to change course, but it will be if we don't take dramatic action as soon as possible," Obama said at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

"If nothing is done, this recession could linger for years. The unemployment rate could reach double digits."

But he gave few new details about the package of tax cuts and public-works spending likely to cost $800 billion US or more.

Obama is seeking approval by mid-February of the stimulus package he is crafting with the Democratic-led Congress. In addition, Obama urged further measures to shore up confidence in the financial system and restore smooth functioning of the frozen credit markets. REUTERS

### UN council passes resolution for Gaza ceasefire

**MIDDLE EAST** The U.N. Security Council on Thursday called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza that Arab nations hope will put an end to Israel's 13-day offensive, but the U.S. abstained.

The resolution "calls for an immediate, durable and fully respected ceasefire, leading to the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza." It also called for arrangements to prevent arms smuggling to Palestinian militants and reopen border crossings, and for distribution of aid in Gaza, where more than 750 Palestinians have died.

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice praised the resolution and said she abstained only because the United States first wanted to see the outcome of an Egyptian mediation effort. REUTERS

### Jordan **The next generation**

MAJED JABER / REUTERS

Jordanian children hold toy guns as they shout anti-Israel slogans during a protest in Amman on Thursday against Israeli attacks in the Gaza Strip. Palestinians faced even grimmer conditions Thursday after a UN aid agency halted work, saying its staff were at risk from Israeli forces fighting Hamas militants, after two drivers were killed.

## Business

### Bank deposits rise as economy heads south

**ECONOMY** Canadians are hunkering down and saving more money, sparking a swell in deposits, said bank executives at an industry conference in Toronto on Thursday.

**"When you get unrest in the marketplace, money goes to safe havens."**
Chris Hodgson

Bank of Montreal has already boosted its share of deposits and predicts that consumers will be more inclined to save than borrow this year.

The Bank of Nova Scotia is also reporting gains in personal deposits.

"When you get unrest in the marketplace, money goes to safe havens," said Chris Hodgson, head of domestic banking.

GICs and high-interest savings accounts are proving popular and more growth is expected as Canadians flock to the new tax-free savings accounts.

But as deposit levels increase, banks are bracing for even slower demand for residential mortgages because of the souring economy. The growth in deposits, however, is good news for banks, as a relatively cheap source of capital. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### Retailers brace for fallout

**RETAIL** While U.S. retailers reported what some analysts called the worst holiday sales in four decades, some said they fared better in Canada. But many sales gains likely came at the expense of profits, industry experts cautioned.

American retailers yesterday reported sharply lower same-store sales for December that could have repercussions for the Canadian industry, experts said.

"As we've seen from Linen 'n Things and Circuit City, it's hard for the Canadian subsidiary to keep operating if its parent in the U.S. is having serious financial difficulties," said Maude Tremblay, an analyst with debt-rating agency Standard & Poor's. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## News in brief

**MUMBAI** Pakistan's security agencies had authorized confirmation the surviving Mumbai gunman was from Pakistan, a former adviser yesterday, adding he was sacked because the prime minister had been uninformed. India said for weeks the gunman captured in Mumbai was from Pakistan, who replied that his name could not be found in a database of citizens.

**INDIA** A teacher who blinded a six-year-old girl by inserting a pin into her right eye will be charged with attempted murder, officials said. Police said the teacher pricked the girl's eye after she failed to answer a question in class.

**NEPAL** The UN's human rights agency has urged Nepal to search for girls who went missing after their parents sold them into domestic service, and urged an end to the practice. REUTERS

## Business in brief

**BLU-RAY** DVD revenue in the United States fell by eight per cent in 2008, but a new report projects it's only a matter of time before Blu-ray begins to compensate for declining returns from traditional discs. For now, the picture is a bit dimmer. Even accounting for the sales of the fledgling high-def format, the home entertainment industry absorbed a six per cent decline last year. REUTERS

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# Comment & Views

## Comment

# Housing hidden troubles

### Homebuyers should do research to avoid a fixer-upper

**Marketplace**

**As with most things, you have to do a lot of work to make sure that what you are getting is a quality product.**

Buying a new house is probably the biggest purchase you will ever make. It's supposed to come with peace of mind, both financially and structurally. But some Canadians who bought new homes during the housing boom are just now finding out that new doesn't always mean trouble-free. And that could be a lot of people. Even with the economic slowdown, more than 83,600 new homes will be built in Canada this year.

Joe and Joanne West of Hamilton have been in their new home for just three years. But within two weeks of moving in, part of their basement floor caved in. Within the next few months, they compiled a list of more than 100 problems, including serious leaks, an unsteady roof and shaky floors. So in addition to the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent on their new home, they had to spend thousands more to start fixing their house.

How does a new home become a fixer-upper? As with most things, you have to do a lot of work to make sure that what you are getting is a quality product.

For the Wests, the problems started before they took possession. The City of Hamilton didn't issue a building permit, which is required by law, until five months after construction began. That means the builder started work on the house without the building plans reviewed by the city.

If the Wests were buying a new toaster, they could just take it back. But it's not as easy to do that with a new house. Instead, the Wests began a fight with their builder, the City of Hamilton, and Tarion (Ontario's new-home warranty program). In the end, they received a settlement from Tarion, but their fight still isn't settled with the builder or the city.

If you're worried about getting sunk with a money pit of a brand new home, there are things you can do:

Get references from your builder. Before buying, make sure your real-estate lawyer checks for any liens against the house and that an occupancy permit has been issued. Check that all building permits are issued. Get an independent inspector to check your home before you take possession.

Wendy Mesley is co-host of CBC TV's Marketplace. To learn more about new home buying pitfalls, check out this season's premiere episode, New Home Nightmares, Friday, Jan. 9 at 8:30 p.m. or go to www.cbc.ca/marketplace.

## Views

# Can't we find big architects at home?

UrbanCompass

I don't know about you, but the next time I have dinner with Santiago Calatrava, he's picking up the tab. He's the Spanish architect just handed a $2.3-million design contract by the city to design a foot bridge west of Prince's Island. There was no design competition; his name emerged from city hall. That was that.

Go big or go home, some say. But can't you go big and go home at the same time? There are two pedestrian bridges planned across the Bow River at a cost of $25 million. When the idea was brought to city council by Druh Farrell last July, it got voted down. Not to give up, ally John Mar referred it to a something called a combined city council, and Mayor (Build, Baby Build) Bronconnier voted for it, along with a few more aldermen. Cost aside, the question is then begged: Could we not have found design talent closer to home?

I'm a bit on the fence about this one. In terms of "staying home" for urban design, it's not like any of Calgary's architects, or their clients, have come up with anything worthy to look at, yet. Now don't get all sensitive. But when you have a friend visit, can you think of one place you venture to, just for architectural significance? Unlikely. You pull the Calgary quick-step: Veer onto the TransCanada and hit the gas until mountains are in full view. Breathe sigh of relief.

So maybe it does make sense to unilaterally give a multimillion design contract to someone proven to make a mark. Maybe a "wow" foot bridge is what the city needs. (It doesn't need foot bridges per se, there are two in the area already.)

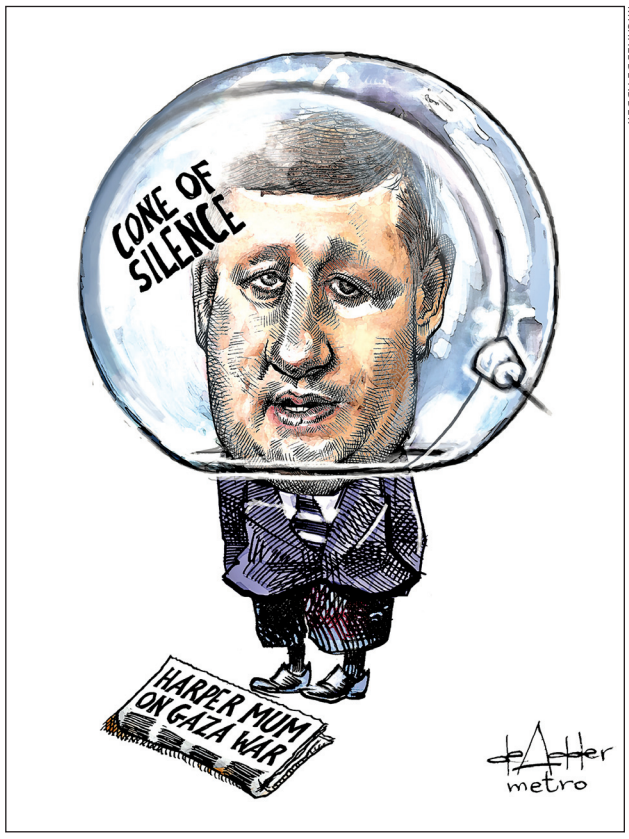
And the money? Well, it gets spent on lesser things, like boring roads, and more boring roads. Quality costs, sometimes. Sometime paying more is worth it. At the right time, like two years ago.

But back to go big or go home. There's a nagging problem. It's Moshe Safdie, the McGill student who designed Habitat '67, easily Canada's most interesting, most original, most awe-inspiring housing development. What if the Montreal powers that be hadn't stayed close to home, or gambled on a student's project?

Design is a gamble and there's no guarantee that a committee would make a better choice. But still, I can't help but feel there's a city designer waiting to break out. A chance she'll never get. So how about this? Pay Mr. Big Wig Arquitecto his money, but set aside, let's say a year's tuition for five student finalists for Bridge 2, then hold a citizen's vote.

It will be big, and be home.

Janice Paskey teaches journalism at Mount Royal College, serves on her community association board and is proud mom to two boys.




MICHAEL DE ADDER

## Letters

**City council missing mark on Calgary's needs**

From spending $4 million more than the asking price of hard-earned taxpayers' money to build a parking lot in place of the Cecil Hotel, to $25 million for a pedestrian bridge, Mayor Dave Bronconnier has made some of the worst choices witnessed in decades.

Some say city council's agreement to force the 19.5 per cent tax hike on the backs of middle class Calgarians is a positive influence for the economy. I say the council, very much Conservative, is simply covering their assests from investing in real estate, and they don't wanna lose out on their cash cow.

Let's also not forget that things the city could use, like the new hospital proposed, will not see the light of day until 2011. Yet it's never too late to boost your own salary, charge more for a lousy public transportation service and install yet another parking lot. Those of you who wish to vote this man as mayor again next election, go ahead and call Bronconnier "mayor." I'll just call him something else.

GAVIN LAVERTY, CALGARY

## Quote of the Day

***"I was just floored ... to find out that the future commander-in-chief was actually going to be the future nerd-in-chief."***

**— Marvel Comics editor-in-chief Joe Quesada, who said the idea for a new Spider-Man edition, Spidey meets the President!, came from a statement from U.S. president-elect Barack Obama that he collected Spider-Man comics.** REUTERS

**Metro Online Poll Results**

| 71% SAID YES | Should polygamy continue to be illegal in Canada? *Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca* | 29% SAID NO |
|---|---|---|

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**Sinclair honoured**
The Canadian Soccer Association announced Thursday that Christine Sinclair, right, is the female selection for the 2008 adidas Canadian Player of the Year award. The 25-year old played 22 games for the national team in 2008, scoring 13 times. METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Sports

## Tavares traded

The Ontario Hockey League's London Knights acquired Team Canada hero John Tavares, left, from the Oshawa Generalson Thursday. It is not known when he will make his Knights debut, but if he's in the lineup Friday, he'll face his former team as London hosts the Generals. Tavares is favoured to be the first pick in the 2009 NHL draft. METRO NEWS SERVICES

JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

# Flames catch fire late, beat Isles

**NHL RESULT**

**Islanders 2 Flames 5**

VS

**LAURENCE HEINEN**
for Metro Calgary

TODD KOROL/REUTERS

Curtis Glencross and Thomas Pock of the Islanders collide in the third period Thursday night.

**THE SKINNY:** Although the Islanders gave them a scare in the second period, the Flames (25-12-4) rallied to score three straight goals to down the league's worst squad for their second straight victory and seventh in eight contests.

**THE FIRSTS:** Much to the delight of the sellout crowd, Calgary blueliner Adam Pardy slapped a pass from Jarome Iginla past Islanders goalie Joey MacDonald in the third period for his first goal in his rookie campaign. Earlier in the contest, New York forward Trevor Smith notched his first NHL goal, as well.

**THE QUOTE:** "It was a nice pass there from Iggy and an empty net," Pardy said. "Getting that first goal was something that was in the back of the mind. It's good to see it go in, and now that's over."

**THE PROUD PAPA:** With his dad Steve Tambellini, the general manager of the Edmonton Oilers, watching from above in the press box, Islanders forward Jeff Tambellini wristed a shot to the top corner over Miikka Kiprusoff's glove hand to tie the game at 2-2 in the second period.

**THE GAME WINNER:** Just 55 seconds after Tambellini's goal, Daymond Langkow converted a feed from Rene Bourque to give him goals in four straight games and to put the Flames ahead to stay. Langkow is on fire with six goals and six assists during his seven-game scoring streak.

**THE DEBUT:** After helping Sweden win a silver medal at the world junior hockey championships in Ottawa, Calgary first-round draft pick Mikael Backlund (24th overall in 2007) made his NHL debut with the Flames against the Isles.

**THE NEXT GAME:** The Flames have a bit of a break before facing off against the St. Louis Blues at the 'Dome on Tuesday night (7:30 p.m., Sportsnet, Fan 960).

## Hitmen get WHL's top goal man

**WHL** The Calgary Hitmen acquired centre Joel Broda and left-winger Tomas Karpov Thursday from the Moose Jaw Warriors in exchange for centre Brendan Rowinski, along with second and seventh round picks in the 2009 WHL Bantam Draft.

Broda currently leads the WHL with 36 goals.

"Joel Broda is a dynamic offensive talent and will further strengthen our centre ice position," said Hitmen GM Kelly Kisio.

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**Ronaldo escapes car wreck unhurt**
Manchester United star Cristiano Ronaldo, left, escaped injury Thursday after crashing his car on the way to training. The Portugal winger's Ferrari hit a roadside barrier in a two-lane tunnel near Manchester Airport, totalling the vehicle. METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Ski & Snowboard Hill Conditions
AS OF THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

**SUNSHINE** 150 cm base with all lifts and 96 of 107 runs open
**LAKE LOUISE** 28 cm new snow, 152 cm base at top with 9 lifts and 123 of 139 runs open
**MOUNT NORQUAY** 14 cm new snow, 85 cm base at top with all lifts and 26 runs open
**CASTLE MOUNTAIN** 25 cm new snow, Mid mountain base: 100 cm; 39 runs are open
**NAKISKA** 5 cm new snow, 65 cm base, 5 of 6 lifts open, 26 of 28 runs open.

# She's 40 and fast

MATTHEW WUEST
Metro Canada

**As a single mother of three, it goes without saying that Denise Robson does plenty of running around.**

But Robson is not just a single mother of three; she's also the fastest 40-and-older marathoner in Canadian history. And for her, running around involves a lot more than the traditional duties of parenthood.

The 40-year-old Nova Scotia woman fits in training whenever she can: Shorter runs on her lunch breaks; longer 12-kilometre runs from her office to her home after she's done work.

"I shake my head all the time," Robson groans at how she manages training with girls aged eight, 10 and 12. "I have to balance things because it's important my running time isn't taking away from my time with my kids."

Robson was a cross-country runner during her university days, but quit "cold turkey" 19 years ago. It wasn't until five years ago that she took it back up. She had no grand visions of running a 42.2-kilometre marathon. She was going through a separation and just wanted to relieve some stress.

"A co-worker asked me to join them for a lunchtime run," she recalls. "I thought, 'Hmm, why not? Some time away from my desk, some fresh air? It would do me good.'"

Five months later, Robson entered the Prince Edward Island Marathon "just to say I'd done it."

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO CANADA
Denise Robson qualified for the Boston Marathon on her first try.

"It was totally as a lark," she says.

It turned out to be a lot more than that. She was the fastest woman in the P.E.I. Marathon with a time of three hours 13 minutes, and qualified for the Boston Marathon — something that usually takes years of training — by more than 30 minutes.

"Everyone was like, 'OK, wait a minute, you've got something here, Denise,'" she says. "It's been an addiction ever since."

Her times improved continuously, and last month, she smashed the country's 17-year-old masters record (and her personal best) by more than three minutes, running the California International Marathon in Sacramento in 2:41:12.

Robson was taken aback when she was informed a week after the marathon that she had made history.

"I was like, 'You've got the wrong person here. Are you kidding me, 2:41 is the record? Great, but I'm gonna be faster next year,'" says Robson.

"I'm living a dream at 40 that I should have been living at 20," she says. "I missed that opportunity at 20, so now I'm going to run with it as far as I can, no pun intended."

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# Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

## Movies

## Battle of the brides Pg 10

Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway actually made a few funnies in the film Bride Wars. Although the storyline is pretty predictable, the cynical, cutthroat humour comes with a good dollop of wit that offers a refreshing surprise.

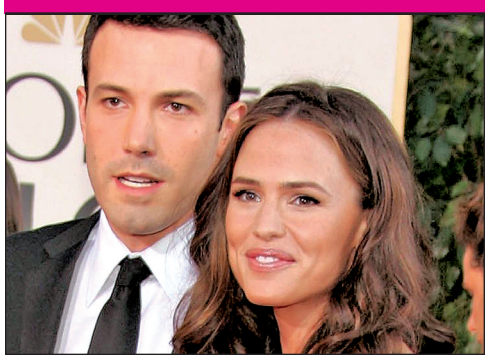
### movies Pg 10

Kevin James puts heart, soul and big butt into Mall Cop.

### music Pg 15

Sam Roberts shares insights on how Canadians rock.

### 7th heaven Pg 17



Why does this couple make our weekly hot list?

**Also opening ...**

Also hitting theatres on Friday is the horror film The Unborn. Visit metronews.ca/movies for screen times and images. A review of the movie will also be online on Sunday, and in the Monday edition of Metro. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

# Bride married to predictability

### Bride **Wars**

**Director:** Gary Winick
**Stars:** Kate Hudson, Anne Hathaway
**Classification:** PG
**Rating:**

**ROBYN YOUNG**
for Metro Canada

**Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway actually made a few funnies in the film Bride Wars.**

The generically titled flick about two BFFs turned frenemies in the preamble to their coinciding nuptials is just in time for one of the most popular wedding-movie months of the year.

And although the storyline is gag-me-with-a-spoon predictable, the cynical, cut-throat humour comes with a good dollop of wit that offers a refreshing surprise.

Emma (Hathaway) and Liv (Hudson) have been best friends since grade school and both have dreamt of June weddings at the Plaza Hotel in New York City since catching a peek of one while attending tea service with their mothers as youngsters.

The live-in boyfriends of each (played by Chris Pratt and Steve Howey) end up proposing around the same time, a scheduling mix-up with fictionally infamous wedding planner Marion St. Claire (Candice Bergen) follows, and — voila! — a nightmare is born.

The bosom buddies' weddings are booked on the same day, at the same time, in adjacent rooms and neither bride will relinquish her date or location. Resentment builds until it explodes into an all-out war on the day of their shared wedding shower.

"Your wedding better watch it!" shouts Hudson. "Your wedding better sleep with one eye open."

"Your wedding's gonna be huge — just like your ass was at prom," retorts Hathaway as the pals' mutual friends look on in horror.

Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway transform from best friends to bridezillas when their weddings are booked on the same day in Bride Wars.

Since it's January and most of us have spent the last two months being overly nice to everyone in our paths, it comes as a bit of a treat to indulge in the sabotage-fest that ensues. It's tiring being nice all the time as Hathaway's character Emma discovers part way through the film.

Greg DePaul and Casey Wilson probably could have written the screenplay in their sleep, but much of the dialogue is intelligent and Kristen Johnston (Third Rock from the Sun) puts on a decent supporting actress performance as Emma's unstable colleague-turned-maid-of-honour-by-default.

The main disappointment is director Gary Winick's decision to go with the melodramatic ending that tries to suck a few tears out of the audience. It ends up overplayed with a vomit-inducing result.

Otherwise, it'll be a decent rental for a Friday night in February.

### On the web

- To see a Bride Wars trailer, and for more pictures from the movies, visit metronews.ca/movies

# Art imitating life for Rourke

### Movie **profile**

**CHRIS ALEXANDER**
for Metro Canada

**All art imitates life and nowhere is this adage more resonant than in director Darren Aronofsky's latest peek into the darker recesses of the human heart, The Wrestler.**

The film follows the lonely twilight days of former wrestling superstar Randy (The Ram) Robinson as he desperately attempts to grapple with age, ego and the physical toll his profession has racked against his body.

But the film's real fascination — it opens next Friday — lies in the eerie manner in which The Ram's misfortunes echo those of the man who plays him: '80s movie icon Mickey Rourke, who delivers a dynamic, career-best performance that has Oscar written all over it.

Once considered the heir apparent to both Marlon Brando and Robert DeNiro, Rourke — after starring in such tough, uncompromising cult favorites as Diner, The Year of the Dragon, Angel Heart and Barfly — endured a plethora of public humiliations (his rocky relationship with ex-wife Carre Otis is well-documented) before abandoning his craft to pursue his first love, boxing. By the time he returned to the screen in the late '90s, the party was long over.

Mickey Rourke plays a beaten and battered wrestler trying for a comeback in The Wrestler.

Screenwriter Robert Siegel wrote the part of The Ram specifically for Rourke, basing the character on his own admiration for the actor's past cinematic glories.

The Wrestler — which sees Rourke delivering a shattering emotional and physical performance — marks the official return of the once-troubled actor to the Hollywood big leagues.

"It feels strange, very strange and almost painfully nice," says Rourke about his career renaissance.

"I behaved terribly in those early days ... I've been fortunate enough along the way to have access to good advice to make changes in my life. I just didn't think it was going to take me 10 years to work it all out."

# James dreams big with Cop

**STEVE GOW**
for Metro Canada

**FEATURE** After a nine-year run on TV's The King of Queens, Kevin James now has big plans to become a movie star. To some, that may sound like a lofty goal but not to the 43-year-old comic. After all, his comedy heroes were also quite big. Literally.

"Jackie Gleason was a guy who could move and was a big guy," James immediately said when asked of his idols during a recent interview. "I loved all the big guys – (John) Belushi, (John) Candy, Chris Farley — I had a connection to those guys and being (larger) myself, I really, really enjoyed how they moved and their style."

If James doesn't achieve his heroes' level of fame, it surely isn't for lack of physical ability. In his new big-screen comedy Paul Blart: Mall Cop (in theatres next Friday) James plays a bumbling unarmed security guard who must defend his shopping centre from a gang of gun-wielding terrorists. In the process, he falls 45-feet through a glass skylight, gets punched out by a woman and wipes out into several large objects.

"We wanted it to be really, really physical and make it an action-comedy and we did, we went hard," said James, who also co-wrote the film. "I went crazy for this movie because I said, 'this is my idea, if I'm going to be out on the line, I'm going to push it' and we certainly did."

Kevin James plays a bumbling security guard fighting terrorists in Paul Blart: Mall Cop.

One such stunt involved running face-first into a glass door, a stunt that not only looks incredibly painful, but involved James ricocheting back and flipping head over heels.

"That was a little insane," laughs James. "I hit it hard. I just wanted to make it look real and it was real."

Blart's other comic device is his trusty Segway, the two-wheeled personal transporter many security personnel now possess in American malls.

"I laughed so hard when I saw (mall cops) on these things," James admitted, insisting the first sight of him on the transporter was perhaps even more pathetic but a perfect gag for the film. "I look like Hitchcock floating basically — that's all it was, just a mass floating by."

**Viacom renews Paramount contract**
Viacom Inc renewed the contract of Paramount Pictures' Chief Executive, Brad Grey, for a period of five years, a person close to the company said yesterday. REUTERS



## Reel Time

🌐🌐🌐🌐🌐 A CLASSIC; 🌐🌐🌐🌐 EXCELLENT; 🌐🌐🌐 GOOD; 🌐🌐 FAIR; 🌐 POOR

# Northern frights revisited

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

**Next week, as horror movie fans across the globe prepare to get a torrent of blood, pick axes and various viscera splattered onto their laps in Patrick Lussier's 3-D remake of My Bloody Valentine, it's a good time to reflect on the fact that director George Mihalka's original 1981 mad miner slasher epic was a prime piece of Canadian shock.**

The original — shot in Sydney Mines, N.S. — was one of many northern frights whose international popularity helped shape one of the most fascinating periods in our film history. Yep, Canada was once a major hub for horror.

The first kick at the creepy Can-con can came with 1961's The Mask, a lowbrow 3-D picture that opened the gates for a glorious wave of eerie exploitation filmmaking.

Later, a couple of enterprising Montreal-based cinema-slingers, John Dunning and Andre Link, formed Cinepix, a distribution house that released Kung Fu (they were the first outfit to distribute Bruce Lee films in North America), horror and sex comedies and would make the most profound impact, discovering both Ivan Reitman (who unleashed the cult Eugene Levy/Andrea Martin gore classic Cannibal Girls in 1973) and perhaps most importantly, David Cronenberg.

It was Dunning and Link — Canada's equivalent to American International Pictures — who funded early icky Cronenberg efforts, like 1975's Shivers and the following year's Rabid; tirelessly defending his controversial work and helping to put the young auteur on the map.

Cinepix would eventually spit out scads of unsavory fare like the legendary Ilsa She Wolf of the SS (it's rumoured that Reitman himself wrote that gruesome film under a pseudonym) and would capitalize on the stalk and slash trend sparked by both Halloween and the far bloodier Friday the 13th with J. Lee Thompson's shish kebob abusing Happy Birthday To Me and, of course, My Bloody Valentine.

Though Dunning and Link weren't the only ones making waves in the realms of the weird — Bob Clark's landmark 1975 thriller Black Christmas still stands as the quintessential Canadian stomach turner — their joyously un-PC efforts were groundbreaking.

And these days, with American producers opting to shoot movies like Saw and Silent Hill in our streets (even zombie master George Romero moved to Toronto in 2004) and homegrown heroes like East Coast upstart Jason Eisener drawing attention, it's only a matter of time before the term "hoser" becomes synonymous with horror once more.

Movie **profile**

Jensen Ackles stars as Tom Hanniger in My Bloody Valentine 3-D.

### Eastern promises

Jason Eisener

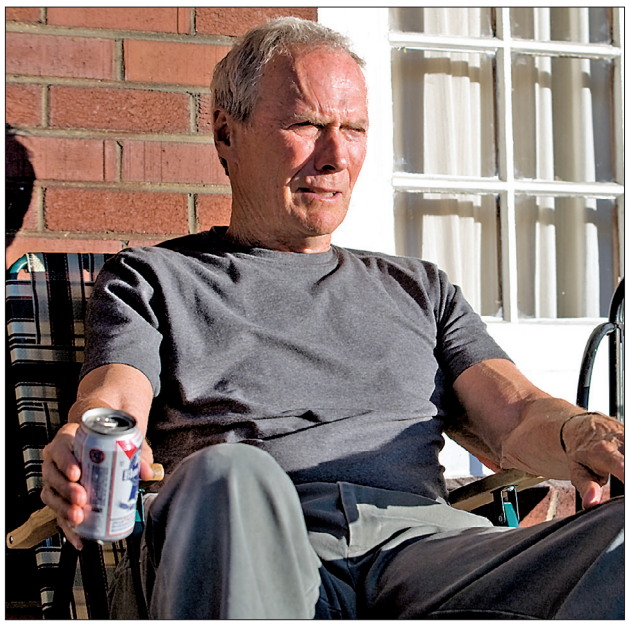
• Halifax-based filmmaker Jason Eisener landed on the lurid movie map in 2007 after his crowd-pleasing Hobo with a Shotgun won the Tarantino/Rodriguez Grindhouse mock trailer contest. Now his brilliant and hilariously grotesque short film Treevenge will be featured at none other than the Sundance Film Festival. Go to treevenge.com for more information.

# Torino's character succeeds, but its plot feels too morally heavy

Gran **Torino**

**Director:** Clint Eastwood
**Stars:** Clint Eastwood
**Classification:** 14A
**Rating:** 🌐🌐 1/2

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada


Clint Eastwood stars and directs the film Gran Torino, in which he plays a bigoted veteran.

**REVIEW** Clint Eastwood thinks America's gone soft and he wants you to know it. First, the 78-year-old acting legend told Esquire Magazine that people were "tougher" when he was a kid and that much of his "childhood was spent punching the bullies out."

Now, with his latest drama Gran Torino, Eastwood puts his words into deeds playing bigoted veteran Walt Kowalski, a character that perhaps, like Clint himself, would rather put up than shut up.

Kowalski just wants to be left alone but as he sits on his porch sipping beer, lamenting the disregard of youth and the growing ethnicity of his neighbourhood, he reluctantly finds himself developing a chummy relationship with his Hmong neighbours after he scares off pestering gangbangers with a shotgun grumbling, "Get off my lawn."

If that slice of dialogue sounds like it was uttered by Eastwood's own Dirty Harry, it's certainly not by mistake. In fact, Gran Torino is an obvious tribute to the toughness of Eastwood's career. Kowalski isn't so much a character as he is the symbol of an era and this film, a moral lesson of changing times. Perhaps because of this, Gran Torino's set-up does feel somewhat mawkish, even satirical at times.

While Eastwood is agonizingly fun to watch — think Archie Bunker with a trigger finger — Torino's morality feels heavy-handed and tone uneven. Sure, it plays out like a eulogy to a tremendous career but while Eastwood's surely worth celebrating, I'm not convinced his Gran Torino is.

# James dreams big with Mall Cop role

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

**FEATURE** After a nine year run on TV's The King of Queens, Kevin James now has big plans to become a movie star. To some, that may sound like a lofty goal but not to the 43-year-old comic. After all, his comedy heroes were also quite big. Literally.

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Kevin James in Mall Cop.

"We wanted it to be really, really physical and make it an action-comedy and we did, we went hard," said James, who also co-wrote the film. "I went crazy for this movie because I said, 'this is my idea, if I'm going to be out on the line, I'm going to push it' and we certainly did."

**Deakins receives two film nominations**

For the second year in a row, Roger Deakins has picked up two nominations from the American Society of Cinematographers for his feature film work. Deakins was cited earlier this week for Revolutionary Road and The Reader. REUTERS

## Reel Time

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

# Weddings are a movie staple

InFocus
Richard Crouse
mrchaos33@hotmail.com

Since the beginning of filmed entertainment, 25,367 weddings have been portrayed on the big screen.

OK, I just made that number up; it's probably way more than that. It seems the only thing people enjoy more than going to a wedding is seeing a wedding on the big screen. At least that's what the producers of this weekend's Bride Wars are banking on.

Weddings are a movie staple and as Katrina Onstadt pointed out on cbc.ca, they can define the tone of the whole film. "(A) movie that starts with a wedding will always be gloomier than that which ends with one," she wrote.

It's an astute observation. Comedies tend to build up to the big ceremony while dramas often use the walk down the aisle as a starting point for conflict. The elaborate wedding sequence that kicks off The Deer Hunter is the opening salvo in a movie Roger Ebert called "a progression from a wedding to a funeral." Once again, the going gets grim after the I dos.

Probably the most famous wedding in film history, though, is one that never gets to the vows. The wedding scene at the end of The Graduate is a classic but the scenes that make it memorable weren't shot as originally planned.

Director Mike Nichols originally intended for Benjamin (Dustin Hoffman) to loudly bang on the church windows to disrupt the wedding between his love, Elaine (Katharine Ross), and her intended, but in rehearsal the windows rattled so ominously someone panicked and yelled, "Everybody out!" Hoffman suggested spreading his arms out and cautiously tapping on the glass with open hands. "The clincher," Hoffman said, "was the reviews all saying this was Benjamin's Christ moment. It was a fix. That's all it was."

Katharine Ross and Dustin Hoffman played in probably the most famous wedding in film history, according to columnist Richard Crouse.

In a subtler, but equally memorable, moment, Elaine and Benjamin dash from the church, laughing, fleeing convention toward an unsure future. Then, suddenly, they stop laughing as though the consequences of their actions have just sunk in. It's a powerful moment that caps a terrific movie, but again it wasn't planned. As they shot the scene Nichols was so overbearing the two actors instinctively clammed up and sober expressions appeared on their faces. In post-production, Nichols liked their transition from cocky confidence to uncertainty so much he kept it in.

Ironically, when the film opened in Portugal censors felt the ending set a bad example for kids and clipped the last few minutes. That version ended with Elaine obeying her parents and marrying the blonde frat boy. Portuguese audiences may have missed the whole point of the movie, but at least were treated to the thing most paid to see — a big wedding scene.

Richard Crouse is the author of Son of the 100 Best Movies You've Never Seen and film critic for CTV's Canada AM.

# Writers nominate best film scripts

**AWARDS** Hollywood screenwriters named nominees for 2008's best film scripts earlier this week with a few surprises among the movies vying for honours ahead of the industry's highest awards — the Oscars in February.

The Writers Guild of America nominated for best original screenplay Milk, written by Dustin Lance Black and telling of the life of slain gay rights activist Harvey Milk, along with Robert Siegel's The Wrestler, which looks at the life of a faded sports star.

Those writers will be joined by veteran Woody Allen with romantic comedy Vicky Cristina Barcelona, brothers Joel and Ethan Coen for another comedy, Burn After Reading, and Tom McCarthy with immigration tale The Visitor.

In the best adapted screenplay category, the Writers Guild nominated Eric Roth for The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, about a man who ages backward, John Patrick Shanley with sex abuse drama Doubt and Simon Beaufoy for Slumdog Millionaire, which tells of a young Indian man who competes to win a fortune on a television game show.

Joining those film writers in the adapted screenplay group are brothers Jonathan and Christopher Nolan for their Batman movie, The Dark Knight, and Peter Morgan with Frost/Nixon, which recounts the interviews by British TV host David Frost of disgraced U.S. president Richard Nixon.

Next on the guild list nominations will be the Directors Guild of America with its honors for film direction.

The Writers Guild Awards will be given out Feb. 7 in Los Angeles. The Oscars are handed out Feb. 22.

REUTERS

### Foreshadowing

- Nominees for awards from the Writers Guild often provide industry watchers with clues as to which films will compete for Oscars, the world's top movie honours, because many guild members also belong to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which gives out the Oscars.

## Quote of the week

"It's a funny story. This book shows up on my doorstep inscribed, 'To Brendan, thank you for inspiring this character. I hope you get to read this aloud to your kids one day,' with (author) Cornelia Funke on the cover, and I thought it was a joke. But when the film was proposed, she refused to sign over the film rights until I agreed to play the lead role of Mortimer. Being new to the world of filmmaking she wanted to know more, and it was a lot of work bringing the novel to screen."

**BRENDAN FRASER TALKING ABOUT HIS LEAD ROLE IN THE MOVIE ADAPTATION OF THE BOOK INKHEART — OUT LATER THIS MONTH.**
**SOURCE: EMIRATES BUSINESS**

**Waltz With Bashir nominated for BAFTA**
Israeli animation movie Waltz With Bashir, about the 1982 massacre of Palestinians in Beirut, is one of five movies to be nominated for a foreign language BAFTA award, Britain's equivalent of the Oscars. **REUTERS**

# Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

## Movie **morsels**

### Bedtime Stories
●●

**REVIEW** Bedtime Stories brings Adam Sandler to Disney and the results are predictably placid. Sandler's once anarchistic comic spirit has been dulling with age and joining the Disney team feels like an appropriate crash landing for his downward trajectory. The film is far too predictable and childish to appeal to the actor's core audience, coming off like the type of forgettable family comedy that would have starred Steve Guttenberg and gone straight to video 10 years ago.
**Phil Brown/for Metro Canada**

### Body of Lies
●●●

**REVIEW** In director Ridley Scott's latest film, a CIA field agent (Leonardo DiCaprio) is not only tracking down an Osama bin Laden-like terrorist leader, but he's doing so under the guidance of stay-at-home chief Ed Hoffman (Russell Crowe).
**Steve Gow/for Metro Canada**

### Bolt
●●●●

**REVIEW** Essentially, this tale about the unyielding loyalty of canines is as charming and heart-tugging as any Disney movie out there. Even better, the film excels in skill, depth and maturity equalling that of Wall-E and Ratatouille.
**Steve Gow/for Metro Canada**

### Changeling
●●●●

**REVIEW** Directed by legendary icon Clint Eastwood, Changeling tells the emotional journey of Christine Collins (Angelina Jolie), a single mother in 1920s Los Angeles who comes home to find her son missing. Following weeks of relentlessly searching, the police suddenly show up with her child, reporters in tow. Great. Only there's a catch: It ain't him.
**Steve Gow/for Metro Canada**

Brad Pitt stars in The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, now in theatres.

### The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
●●●

**REVIEW** Based on a tale by F. Scott Fitzgerald, Button tells the life story of a man who is born with the physicality of an 80-year-old but mysteriously ages in reverse, meeting impossible challenges along the way. There's a lot of talk about Brad Pitt possibly sneaking an Oscar, and he definitely gives the best performance of his career.
**Steve Gow/for Metro Canada**

### Role Models
●●●●

**REVIEW** Without its leading men — one uses the term loosely in this case — Role Models would be just another instalment in the sub-Apatow genre, which is to say a comedy based on character and dialogue and the odd kick in the nuts.
**Rick McGinnis/Metro Canada**

### Twilight
●●

**REVIEW** Kristin Stewart stars as Bella, a young girl who moves to a small town and becomes instantly captivated by a classmate named Edward (Robert Pattinson), who is part of a very peculiar and insular family known as the Cullens. As Bella becomes more attracted to Edward, she discovers the Cullens are a clan of vampires … but very safe emo-vampires who only drink animal blood and spend most of their time silently emoting and looking pretty rather than preying on helpless victims.
**Phil Brown/for Metro Canada**

### Valkyrie
●●½

**REVIEW** There's no doubt Valkyrie was an ambitiously high-risk project for Tom Cruise, and the truth is the film will likely struggle to fill theatre seats as it focuses on the true story of an assassination attempt on Adolph Hitler. Cruise plays Col. Claus von Stauffenberg, a tragically injured soldier that joins an inside gang of Nazi conspirators to eliminate Hitler.
**Steve Gow/for Metro Canada**

# Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 9 TO THURS., JAN. 15. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

## CANYON MEADOWS
Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail, 403-670-5444

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:30-7:10
**Body of Lies** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:30-7:10 Fri-Thu 12:55-4:05-6:50-9:30
**The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** (PG) Fri-Thu 1-9:45
**Changeling** (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4:05-8
**Delgo** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55
**The Duchess** (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20
**Eagle Eye** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-6:50-9:35
**High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:05
**The Lucky Ones** (14A) Fri-Thu 3:35-7:05
**Mamma Mia!** (PG) Fri-Thu 4:10-7:20-9:50
**Nothing Like the Holidays** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:15-9:45
**Passchendaele** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50
**Quarantine** (18A) Fri-Thu 9:35
**Role Models** (14A) Fri-Thu 7-9:40
**The Secret Life of Bees** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:15-9:40

## CROWFOOT CROSSING
91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

**Bedtime Stories** (G) Fri-Tue 1:40-4:15-6:45-9:20 Wed 4:15-6:45-9:20 Thu 1:40-4:15-6:45-9:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
**Bolt** (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:45-5:15
**Bride Wars** (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:10-3:55-7:15-9:30 No Passes Wed 3:55-7:15-9:30 No Passes Thu 1:10-3:55-7:15-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) Fri-Thu 12-3:40-7:40
**Gran Torino** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:45-7-9:50
**Marley & Me** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-6:40-9:40
**Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine** (STC) Sat 11
**Quantum of Solace** (14A) Fri-Thu 7:45-10:20
**Seven Pounds** (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7:10-10:10
**The Spirit** (14A) Fri-Thu 9:55
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri-Thu 12:20-2:50-5:10-7:35
**Twilight** (PG) Fri 12:40-3:30-6:55-10 Sat 3:30-6:55-10 Sun-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:55-10
**The Unborn** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:50-4:40-7:25-9:50
**Valkyrie** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:05-9:45
**Yes Man** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-6:50-10:05

## EAU CLAIRE MARKET
200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) Fri 8 Sat-Sun 12-4-8 Mon-Thu 8
**Doubt** (PG) Fri 7:10-10 Sat-Sun 12:20-3-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 7:10-10
**Gran Torino** (14A) No Passes Fri 6:50-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:10-3:10-6:50-9:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:50-9:50
**Marley & Me** (PG) Fri 7-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:35-7-9:45 Mon-Tue 7-9:45 Wed 9:45 Thu 7-9:45
**The Reader** (18A) Fri 6:40-9:40 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:40 Mon-Wed 6:40-9:40 Thu 9:40
**Slumdog Millionaire** (14A) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:15-3:20-6:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30

Marley the dog attempts to look contrite in Marley & Me, which is currently in theatres.

BARRY WETCHER/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

## EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS
388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

**Bedtime Stories** (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-7-9:45
**Bolt in Disney Digital 3D** (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:10-3:10-7:05-9:25
**Bride Wars** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:35-7:20-9:35
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-1:15-4:20-5-8-9
**The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:15
**Doubt** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:25-3-6:45-9:50
**Gran Torino** (14A) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-3:45-7:10-10
**Marley & Me** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:40-6:50-9:30
**Quantum of Solace** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:30-10:05
**Seven Pounds** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:15-10:05
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12-3:05-6:30
**Twilight** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:40-6:40-9:40
**The Unborn** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:20-3:15-7:40-10
**Valkyrie** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-7:05-10:10
**Yes Man** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:15-12:50-3:20-4-6:55-7:25-9:20-9:55

## EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL
100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

**Bedtime Stories** (G) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7:10-9:40
**Bride Wars** (PG) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:20-9:50
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Fri-Thu 12-4-7:45
**The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:10
**Gran Torino** (14A) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-7-10
**Marley & Me** (PG) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:40-9:30
**Seven Pounds** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:40-3:40-6:45-9:35 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:40-3:40-9:35
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:20-6:30
**The Unborn** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 2-4:20-7:30-9:55
**Valkyrie** (PG) Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Fri-Thu 12:15-3:15-7:15-10
**Yes Man** (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-3:50-6:50-9:20

## GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

**Seven Pounds** (14A) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 1-3:20-7-9:20 Mon-Tue 7-9:20 Wed 9:20 Thu 7-9:20
**Valkyrie** (PG) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

## MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St., 403-248-2000

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-4
**Body of Lies** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:40
**Changeling** (14A) Fri 12:45-9:35 Sat 9:35 Sun-Thu 12:45-9:35
**Dobol Trobol: Lets Get Redi 2 Rambol!** (STC) Fri-Thu 6:30-9:30
**Ghajini** (14A) Fri 6:30-8:30 Sat 2-6:30-8:30 Sun-Thu 4-7:30
**The Haunting of Molly Hartley** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:05-7:05-10
**High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:40-6:40
**Role Models** (14A) Fri-Thu 1-3:55-7-9:50
**Transporter 3** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:50-9:45
**Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (18A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:55-9:55

## SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

**Australia** (PG) Fri-Thu 8
**Bedtime Stories** (G) Fri-Sat 12:05-2:25-5-7:20-10:05 Sun 12:05-2:30-5-7:20-10:05 Mon 12:05-2:25-4:55-7:20-10:05 Tue-Thu 12:05-2:25-5-7:20-10:05
**Bolt** (G) Fri-Wed 12-4:10-7:20-9:50 Thu 12-4:10-9:50
**Bride Wars** (PG) No Passes Fri-Wed 1:10-4:05-7:05-10 No Passes Thu 4:05-7:05-10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-4-5-8-9
**The Day the Earth Stood Still: The IMAX Experience** (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:45
**Gran Torino** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:15-10:15
**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (G) Fri-Thu 12-2:20
**Marley & Me** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-4:10-7:10-10:10
**Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine** (STC) Sat 11
**Milk** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:50-7:05-10:10
**Quantum of Solace** (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-10 Mon 1-4-10 Tue-Thu 1-4-7-10
**Seven Pounds** (14A) Fri-Wed 1:15-4:25-7:30-10:30 Thu 4:25-7:30-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
**The Spirit** (14A) Fri-Tue 1:20-4:30-7:25-10:30 Wed 1:20-4:30-10:30 Thu 1:20-4:30-7:25-10:30
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:50-5:15
**Twilight** (PG) Fri 12:25-3:25-7:10-10:15 Sat 3:25-7:10-10:15 Sun-Thu 12:25-3:25-7:10-10:15
**The Unborn** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:30-10:20
**Valkyrie** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:20-7:25-10:25
**Yes Man** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:35-10:15

## PLAZA THEATRE
1133 Kensington Rd., 403-283-3636

**Dr. Wayne Dyers Ambitionto Meaning** (STC) Sat 12
**Let the Right One In** (18A) Sat-Sun 3:30
**USA vs Al-Arian** (STC) Wed 7
**The Wild Horse Redemption** (STC) Sun 12
**World's Best Commercials 2008** (STC) Fri 5:35-7:20-9:05-10:40 Sat 1:50-5:35-7:20-9:05-10:40 Sun 1:50-5:35-7:20-9:05 Mon-Tue 5:35-7:20-9:05 Wed 5:15-9:05 Thu 5:35-7:20-9:05

## SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM
2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

**Bedtime Stories** (G) Fri-Thu 12-2:35-5-7:25-10:10
**Bolt** (G) Fri-Thu 12:25-3-6:45-9:20
**Bride Wars** (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 12:30-3:45-7:15-10:15 No Passes Wed 3:45-7:15-10:15 No Passes Thu 12:30-3:45-7:15-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) Fri 12:10-3:50-8 Sat 12:10-3:50-7:55 Sun-Thu 12:10-3:50-8
**The Day the Earth Stood Still** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:55-7-9:40
**Gran Torino** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:05-4-7-10
**Marley & Me** (PG) Fri-Tue 12:45-4:05-6:50-9:45 Wed 4:05-6:50-9:45 Thu 12:45-4:05-6:50-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
**Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine** (STC) Sat 11
**Quantum of Solace** (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50
**Seven Pounds** (14A) Fri-Wed 12:20-3:25-7:05-9:55 Thu 12:20-3:25-9:55
**The Spirit** (14A) Fri 12:55-3:40-6:55-9:35 Sat 3:40-6:55-9:35 Sun-Thu 12:55-3:40-6:55-9:35
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:35-5-7:25
**Twilight** (PG) Fri-Sun 1-3:50-7:10-10 Mon 1-3:50-10 Tue-Thu 1-3:50-7:10-10
**The Unborn** (14A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:15-7:20-10:05
**Valkyrie** (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:30-6:35-9:30
**Yes Man** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:15

## THE UPTOWN
612 8th Ave., 403-265-0120

**Happy-Go-Lucky** (14A) Fri 4:35 Sat-Sun 2:20-4:35 Mon-Thu 4:35
**Milk** (14A) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 12-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
**Rachel Getting Married** (STC) Fri 4:45-7:10 Sat-Sun 12:15-4:45-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:10
**Vicky Cristina Barcelona** (14A) Fri 9:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 9:30

## WESTHILLS 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

**Bedtime Stories** (G) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-6:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:50
**Bride Wars** (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:50-3:10-7:20-9:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 6-8:40
**The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4:30-8:05 Mon-Thu 5-8:20
**Doubt** (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:25-6:50-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:55
**Frost/Nixon** (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:35-7:05-10 Mon-Thu 5:45-9
**Marley & Me** (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:15-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:05-8
**Metropolitan Opera: La Rondine** (STC) Sat 11
**Seven Pounds** (14A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:05-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:10
**The Tale of Despereaux** (G) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:55-7:10-9:35 Mon-Wed 5:15-7:45 Thu 5:15
**Valkyrie** (PG) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:40-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:45
**Yes Man** (14A) Fri 12:40-3:20-7:30-10:05 Sat 3:20-7:30-10:05 Sun 12:40-3:20-7:30-10:05 Mon-Wed 5:35-8:35 Thu 8:35

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14A VIOLENCE, FRIGHTENING SCENES

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**Billboard's top albums**
**1.** Fearless, Taylor Swift, right; **2.** I AM...SASHA FIERCE, Beyoncé; **3.** 808s and Heartbreak, Kanye West; **4.** Twilight Soundtrack, Various Artists; **5.** Dark Horse, Nickelback. **REUTERS**

## Music

# Sam Roberts goes coastal

## Montreal band makes a point of crossing the country when on tour

**JIM REYNO**
Metro Canada

UNIVERSAL MUSIC PHOTO

Touring has taught Sam Roberts, centre, that Canadians all love to rock, but rock in different ways.

**Sam Roberts: Juno-winning rocker, hockey-playing Quebec native ... future sociologist?**

"It would be an interesting study to go province by province and make some sort of blanket cultural statement based on the response crowds give to a rock 'n' roll band," Roberts said in a phone interview.

"There really is a huge, huge shift from one place to the next."

He would know. Roberts is in the midst of a Canadian tour that will bring him across the country. He first toured Canada in 2002. Since then, he's criss-crossed the country.

"I don't have the exact number," he said. "But it's a helluva lot!"

And here's what he's found: We all love to rock, but we rock in different ways.

"Sometimes, there are unbelievable shifts in the way people respond to rock 'n' roll music," said Roberts. "What you learn over the years is it's not necessarily that they don't like it — that's the collective behaviour, that's the collective response.

"So when you go to Saskatchewan, the response is completely different than the completely over-the-top, bordering on out-of-control response you get in the Atlantic provinces."

Unlike some artists, Roberts makes it a point to go coast to coast when he goes on tour.

"What we've done right from the beginning is try to hit all 10 provinces at least on our run across the country," said Roberts, whose most recent album, Love at the End of the World, was released in May. "We just figured that's how you do it! Why wouldn't they want to hear you in P.E.I. as much as they want to hear you in Alberta?

"I guess we consider ourselves a band that prides itself on getting out there and playing for anybody who will listen to us."

The Roberts band will be playing a lot in the next few months. The first portion of the Canadian tour wrapped up at the end of November, before resuming this month. Then there are dates in the U.S. to coincide with the album's release there, as well as a European tour.

"Essentially, it's nonstop from now until next summer," said Roberts.

"If you're in a band, your motto should be: If you're working, things are good. So it's hard to complain about all the work at the moment …

"Of course there are mornings when you wake up and you curse it all to hell — usually hangover-related. But there are other moments where you just sit there and thank your lucky stars that you get to do what you're doing."

### In concert

• Sam Robert plays the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (with The Stills) Jan. 19.

# New iTunes: More questions than answers

SoundCheck

**Alan Cross**

alan@ongoinghistory.com

GETTY IMAGES

The iPod is still the 800-pound gorilla, but there will definitely be more competition in the future after Apple announced changes to iTunes earlier this week.

We've had a couple of days to digest the big announcement from Apple at Macworld about the significant changes to iTunes, starting in April.

First, there were three tiers of pricing. Older tracks will be discounted, selling for 69 cents. Newer and more popular tracks will go for either 99 cents or $1.29. This is something the record labels have been screaming for. They've wanted variable pricing.

But the second announcement is the big one: No more digital locks on the songs.

If you've ever tried to share a song you bought from iTunes with a friend, you'll know you can't. Everything is locked to you, your computer and your device. But with no digital rights management or DRM, you can do whatever you want with a music file: Move it from device to device, burn copies and share it with friends.

And it wasn't Apple that wanted to keep DRM in place. Steve Jobs was calling for an end to digital locks as far back as February 2007. It took this long for all the labels to agree to drop the copy protection.

But what about all the songs you've already purchased from iTunes? I myself have hundreds. The good news is that we'll be able to upgrade them to DRM-free versions — but for 30 cents a song. That's still gonna hurt, but at least you can jailbreak the songs you want.

And that's still not all. When DRM disappears in April, any company can now make a music player that will work with iTunes. Up until now, the only portable players that worked with iTunes were all the flavours of iPod. Not anymore.

Question: What does this means for the record labels now that DRM is effectively dead? They won't be able to control how consumers buy and listen to and share music.

Question: Will people respond to the variable pricing strategy? Let's face it, the only people this will affect will be those who already pay for music. And soon, there will be more DRM-free music out there.

Question: Will this erode Apple's market share in the portable music player market? The iPod is still the 800-pound gorilla, but there will definitely be competition ... or does Apple have other plans to compensate?

Interesting times ...

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

# Libertines fans hope for reunion

**BANDS** Fans of The Libertines are speculating the British rock band could become the latest act to stage a reunion, after signs of reconciliation between former frontmen Pete Doherty and Carl Barat.

Doherty, 29, and Barat, 30, fell out four years ago in a blaze of drugs and arguments but have recently been seen at each others' gigs and even spontaneously performed together.

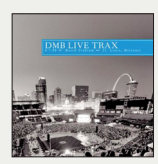
Hopes for a more lasting reunion were rekindled when Dirty Pretty Things, the band Barat formed after the Libertines' implosion in 2004, broke up at the end of last year. **REUTERS**

## Metro recommends

• **ANTONY AND THE JOHNSONS, ANOTHER WORLD EP:** Vibrato-voiced eccentric tones down his haunting sound for unique, somber piano ballads and bawdy blues ramblin'.

• **SARAH SLEAN, THE BARONESS REDECORATES:** T.O. chanteuse invigorates her sound with classical strings for a lush on this collection of tracks cut from her album The Baroness.

• **DAVE MATTHEWS BAND, DMB LIVE TRAX VOL. 13:** This fun-filled June 2008 show held at a Colorado baseball stadium includes impressive covers of classic Neil Young and Sly & the Family Stone.




**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

TOP 10
MOBILE DOWNLOADS
1 Poker Face Lady Gaga
2 Decoder Paramore
3 Live Your Life T.I. ft. Rihanna
4 Right Now (Na Na Na) Akon
5 Heartless Kanye West
6 Hot N Cold Katy Perry
7 Rock N' Roll Train AC/DC
8 Circus Britney Spears
9 Love Story Taylor Swift
10 My Life The Game
rogers.com/musicstore
ROGERS

**Donna Martin coming back to 90210**

Looks like Donna Martin will return to 90210 after all. Tori Spelling is in "final negotiations" to return to the world's most famous zip code, a show rep confirmed to People magazine. **PEOPLE.COM**

## Television

# TV's six degrees of separation

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis

rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

**ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER:** This week's TV news contains a string of items that seem to effortlessly segue into each other, so who am I to be an obstacle to such elegance? First off is a Variety story on the latest feint by NBC at pretending it's a network that cares about programming, a drama about a man on his way to rock bottom who starts hearing music in his head that provides a clue to the direction he should be taking, at which point a new piece of music takes its place.

**"(NBC's new show) has been given the simple but straightforward title Soundtrack, and actually sounds like a half-decent idea."**

"I was trying to find a way to combine TV and music in an organic way," said writer and creator Jared Bush. "What we come to realize in the show is this guy has been given an opportunity to start his life over, and this music will help him find a way to become truly happy."

The show — which gives an explicit shout-out to the music supervisor who'll have to dig up and clear the tunes for the storyline — has been given the simple but straightforward title Soundtrack, and actually sounds like a half-decent idea …

**QUITE UNLIKE …** Dancing To The Music In My Head is the new EP by Sanjaya Malakar, which has just been released. Does anyone remember Sanjaya Malakar? Two years is a long time in American Idol terms, and it's hard not to look back on the more-hair-than-voice season six contestant as a symbol of our onetime irrational exuberance, like easy mortgages and high-risk mutual funds.

**WHICH BRINGS ME TO:** Former Idol executive producer Nigel Lythgoe, expressing his disapproval of the addition of a fourth judge to the Idol panel this season. "At this stage when we have this dysfunctional family of Ryan, Randy, Paula and Simon," Lythgoe told the National Ledger website, describing his reaction to the casting of songwriter Kara DioGuardi.

"You introduce someone else into that and it's like bringing a daughter-in-law into the family. You don't know if she's going to get in the way.

"It's something that I fought for a number of years simply because once you've been told you suck by one judge, you don't need to hear it from another three," Lythgoe said. I would disagree; if something or someone sucks, you can't say it enough times, usually because you're dealing with gargantuan self-esteem that begs to be nuked.

And thus we have a Sanjaya record, two years after the fact; I rest my case.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

## FRIDAY

| CA | Vu | SC | | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| primetime 1/9/09 | 243 | 317 | 3 CFCN | etalk | Hollywood | Raising the Bar "Pilot" | | Ghost Whisperer (N) | | Flashpoint "Eagle Two" | | News (N) |
| | - | - | 4 OMNI | Two/Half Men | The Simpsons | News | | News | | The Simpsons | King | Metropia |
| | - | 371 | 5 KXLY | 4 News at 6 | 4 News at 6:30 | Entertainment | The Insider (N) | Wife Swap (N) | | Supernanny (N) | | 20/20 (N) |
| | 245 | 306 | 6 CBRT | Coronation St. | Jeopardy! (N) | Rick Mercer | Marketplace | Just for Laughs (N) | | CBC News: The National | | The Hour |
| | 244 | 338 | 7 CICT | ET Canada | Entertainment | NUMB3RS (HDTV) (N) | | Howie Do It "Pilot" (N) | | Friday Night Lights | | News Hour |
| | 246 | - | 8 CKAL | Law & Order: SVU | | Man Tracker | | Survivorman | | Lipstick Jungle | | Your City |
| | - | 372 | 12 KREM | News (N) | Hollywood | The Doctors (N) | | Ghost Whisperer (N) | | Flashpoint "Eagle Two" | | NUMB3RS |
| | - | 374 | 14 KSPS | NewsHour With Jim Lehrer | | Wash. Week | McLaughlin | Bill Moyers Journal (N) | | NOW on PBS | Being Served | Vicar of Dibley |
| | - | 370 | 16 KHQ | News (N) | Be-Millionaire | Jeopardy! (N) | Wheel-Fortune | Howie Do It "Pilot" (N) | | Lipstick Jungle (N) | | Dateline NBC |
| | - | 373 | 22 KAYU | The Simpsons | Raymond | Two/Half Men | Two/Half Men | *Bruce Almighty* ★★ (2003, Comedy) Jim Carrey. | | | | News (N) |
| news | 502 | 390 | 15 CBC | CBC News: The National | | CBC News: the fifth estate | | CBC News: The National | | CBC News: The National | | fifth estate |
| | 500 | 500 | 29 CNN | Larry King Live | | Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV) | | | | Larry King Live | | Cooper 360 |
| | 501 | 391 | 52 CTV | CTV Newsnet | | News | CTV Newsnet | News | CTV Newsnet | News | CTV Newsnet | News |
| sports | 400 | 400 | 21 TSN | Basketball | SportsCentre | | That's Hockey! | SportsCentre | Off the Record | Boxing Friday Night Fights. (HDTV) | | |
| | 408 | 418 | 27 net | NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks at Edmonton Oilers. (HDTV) (Live) | | | | | Sportsnet Con. | Sportsnet Connected | | Ult. Fighter |
| family | 552 | 543 | 20 YTV | iCarly | Prank Patrol | Scorpion | *Aquamarine* ★★ (2006, Comedy-Drama) Sara Paxton. | | | | (10:45) Falcon Beach | |
| | 557 | 541 | 39 FAM | Zoey 101 | Latest Buzz | Wizards-Place | *Matilda* ★★★ (1996, Comedy) | | | *You Wish!* (2003, Fantasy) A.J. Trauth. | | |
| cable variety | - | - | 18 CHTV | The Insider (N) | E News | THS Investigates | | | | 20/20 (HDTV) (N) | | News (N) |
| | 603 | 561 | 25 FOOD | Kylie Kwong | Gourmets | Diner, Drive-In | Diner, Drive-In | Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares | | Challenge Sandwiches. | | Kylie Kwong |
| | 615 | 520 | 26 A&E | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | Criminal Minds (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami |
| | 617 | 522 | 32 SHOW | Wife Swap | | The Outer Limits | | Da Vinci's Inquest | | Testees | Kenny-Spenny | Webdreams |
| | 520 | 505 | 35 DISC | Man vs. Wild "Siberia" | | Dark Fellowships: The Vril | | Daily Planet | | Man vs. Wild "Siberia" | | Project Earth |
| | 628 | 584 | 43 SPIKE | *Star Wars IV: A New Hope* ★★★★ (1977, Science Fiction) Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher. | | | | | | MANswers | MANswers | GameTrailers |
| | 522 | 516 | 45 HIST | Urban Legends | Urban Legends | NCIS "Escaped" | | Shockwave | | Urban Legends | Urban Legends | Ax Men |
| | 581 | 566 | 102 MTV | A Double Shot of Love | | The City "The | The City "The | After | Cribs | Bromance | | The City "The |

## SATURDAY

| CA | Vu | SC | | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| primetime 1/10/09 | 243 | 317 | 3 CFCN | NFL Football: NFC Divisional Playoff -- Cardinals at Panthers | | | | Corner Gas | Corner Gas | Comedy Now John Wing. | | News (N) |
| | - | - | 4 OMNI | Omni News: Mandarin | | Movie | | | | Trendy Zone | Word for Word | Chinese Rest. |
| | - | 371 | 5 KXLY | 4 News at 6 | Explorer TV | Entertainment Tonight | | The Bachelor | | | | True Beauty |
| | 245 | 306 | 6 CBRT | NHL Hockey | | NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks at Vancouver Canucks. (HDTV) (Live) | | | | | HNIC -- After Hours | |
| | 244 | 338 | 7 CICT | Sabrina's Law | | Zero Hour | | Mob Stories | | Go Deep "Fireboats" | | News (N) |
| | 246 | - | 8 CKAL | Without a Trace | | Less-Kind | Kaya | *Christie's Revenge* (2007, Drama) Danielle Kind. | | | | The City Show |
| | - | 372 | 12 KREM | News (N) | Scrubs | Cold Case | | Game Show | Game Show | Criminal Minds (HDTV) | | 48 Hr. Mystery |
| | - | 374 | 14 KSPS | The Lawrence Welk Show | | *Ben-Hur* ★★★★ (1959, Historical Drama) Charlton Heston, Jack Hawkins, Stephen Boyd. | | | | | | |
| | - | 370 | 16 KHQ | College Basketball | | CSI: NY "Wasted" | | Crusoe (HDTV) | | Law & Order "Strike" | | Law/Ord SVU |
| | - | 373 | 22 KAYU | NFL Football: NFC Divisional Playoff -- Cardinals at Panthers | | | | Paid Program | Paid Program | House | | News (N) |
| news | 502 | 390 | 15 CBC | Sat. Report | Mansbridge | Doc Zone (HDTV) | | Sat. Report | Fortune | Sat. Report | Mansbridge | Doc Zone |
| | 500 | 500 | 29 CNN | Larry King Live | | D.L. Hughley Breaks the News | | Special Investigations | | Larry King Live | | D.L. Hughley |
| | 501 | 391 | 52 CTV | CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie | | News | CTV Newsnet | News | CTV Newsnet | News | CTV Newsnet | News |
| sports | 400 | 400 | 21 TSN | (6) Curling Casino Rama Skins Game -- Semifinal. | | | | SportsCentre | | NFL Films | NFL Primetime | Rodeo: PRCA |
| | 408 | 418 | 27 net | English Premier League Soccer Teams TBA. (Live) | | | | The Ultimate Fighter | | Saturday Night Poker | | Sportsnet Con. |
| family | 552 | 543 | 20 YTV | Kid vs. Kat | Kid vs. Kat | Team Galaxy | Team Galaxy | Zixx Level | Storm Hawks | Naruto | Bleach | Ghost |
| | 557 | 541 | 39 FAM | Natural-Sadie | Flight 29 Down | That's-Raven | Zoey 101 | Life Derek | Han. Montana | *Little Big League* ★★ (1994, Comedy) | | |
| cable variety | - | - | 18 CHTV | E News | The Soup (N) | *The Haunting of Sorority Row* (2007, Drama) | | | | Show Yours | G-Spot | E News |
| | 603 | 561 | 25 FOOD | Top Chef "Focus Group" | | Hell's Kitchen | | The F Word | | Challenge | | Top Chef |
| | 615 | 520 | 26 A&E | CSI: Miami "Bunk" | | The Sopranos (HDTV) | | The Sopranos (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami |
| | 617 | 522 | 32 SHOW | NUMB3RS "Trust Metric" | | Mutant X | | *The Wrong Guy* ★★ (1998, Comedy) Dave Foley. | | | | *Fast & Furious* |
| | 520 | 505 | 35 DISC | Destroyed | Time Warp | Criss Angel Mindfreak | | Guinea Pig (N) | Guinea Pig | Destroyed | Time Warp | Criss Angel |
| | 628 | 584 | 43 SPIKE | *Star Wars V: The Empire Strikes Back* ★★★★ (1980, Science Fiction) Mark Hamill. | | | | | | *Red Dawn* ★★ (1984, Action) Patrick Swayze. | | |
| | 522 | 516 | 45 HIST | The Real Da Vinci Code | | NCIS "Probie" | | Ancestors | Ancestors | *The General's Daughter* (1999, Suspense) | | |
| | 581 | 566 | 102 MTV | MTV News | After | Cribs | Cribs | Cribs | Cribs | Cribs | Cribs | MTV Live |

## SUNDAY

| CA | Vu | SC | | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| primetime 1/11/09 | 243 | 317 | 3 CFCN | Desperate Housewives | | The 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards (HDTV) Achievement in film and TV industries. | | | | | | News (N) |
| | - | - | 4 OMNI | Without a Trace | | King | King | Bollywood Boulevard | | Black Bearded Barbarian | | Chardi Kalaa |
| | - | 371 | 5 KXLY | News | Cougar Bsktbl | Funniest Home Videos | | Extreme Makeover: Home | | Desperate Housewives | | Brothers |
| | 245 | 306 | 6 CBRT | Heartland (N) (DVS) | | Dragon's Den (N) | | Being Erica "Dr. Tom" | | CBC News: Sunday Night (N) | | fifth estate |
| | 244 | 338 | 7 CICT | 16:9 Picture | The Simpsons | (8:01) Brothers & Sisters (N) | | 24 Tony Almeida is responsible for a terrifying threat. (N) | | | | News (N) |
| | 246 | - | 8 CKAL | 2Half Men | *The World Is Not Enough* ★★ (1999, Action) Pierce Brosnan, Sophie Marceau, Robert Carlyle. | | | | | | | Reviews |
| | - | 372 | 12 KREM | News (N) | | To Be Announced | | Million Dollar Password | | Cold Case (HDTV) (N) | | The Unit |
| | - | 374 | 14 KSPS | Flying the Secret Sky | | Nature (HDTV) (N) (DVS) | | Masterpiece Classic "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" (DVS) | | | | Mystery! |
| | - | 370 | 16 KHQ | News | Best Zags | Golden Globes Red Carpet | | The 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards (HDTV) | | | | |
| | - | 373 | 22 KAYU | House "Need to Know" | | The Simpsons | The Simpsons | 24 Tony Almeida is responsible for a terrifying threat. (N) | | | | News (N) |
| news | 502 | 390 | 15 CBC | CBC News: Sunday Night (N) | | *March of the Penguins* ★★★ (2005, Documentary) | | | | CBC News: Sunday Night | | *March-Penguin* |
| | 500 | 500 | 29 CNN | Larry King Live | | Newsroom | | D.L. Hughley Breaks the News | | Larry King Live | | D.L. Hughley |
| | 501 | 391 | 52 CTV | CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie | | News | CTV Newsnet | News | CTV Newsnet | News | CTV Newsnet | News |
| sports | 400 | 400 | 21 TSN | NHL Hockey: Blues at Oilers | | | SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live) | | | NFL Primetime | Motoring 2009 | Rodeo: PRCA |
| | 408 | 418 | 27 net | CHL Hockey: Teams TBA | | World Combat League | | World Combat League | | Sportsnet Connected (HDTV) | | Poker |
| family | 552 | 543 | 20 YTV | *Alex Rider: Operation Stormbreaker* ★★ (2006, Action) | | | | SpongeBob | Prank Patrol | The Next Star | | Adrenaline Proj |
| | 557 | 541 | 39 FAM | Natural-Sadie | Flight 29 Down | That's-Raven | Zoey 101 | Life Derek | Han. Montana | *Curly Sue* ★★★ (1991, Comedy-Drama) | | |
| cable variety | - | - | 18 CHTV | 2009 Golden Globe Awards | | Inside Hollywood | | Extreme Makeover: Home | | *Fantastic Four* ★★ (2005, Action) | | |
| | 603 | 561 | 25 FOOD | Iron Chef America | | The Next Food Network Star | | The Heat | The Heat | The Next Great Chef | | Iron Chef Am. |
| | 615 | 520 | 26 A&E | CSI: Miami "Sunblock" | | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami (HDTV) | | CSI: Miami |
| | 617 | 522 | 32 SHOW | TBA | Trailer Park | The Guard (HDTV) | | *Love Notes* (2007, Drama) Laura Leighton, Antonio Cupo. | | | | *Catwoman* ★ |
| | 520 | 505 | 35 DISC | Secrets of the Crystal Cave | | MythBusters (N) | | Anthony Bourdain | | Fireball of Tutankhamun | | Secrets-Crystal |
| | 628 | 584 | 43 SPIKE | *Star Wars VI: Return of the Jedi* ★★★ (1983, Science Fiction) Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher. | | | | | | MANswers | MANswers | MANswers |
| | 522 | 516 | 45 HIST | Pearl Harbor: Who Fired First | | NCIS "Model Behavior" | | Braveheart's Scotland | | *Braveheart* (1995, Historical Drama) | | |
| | 581 | 566 | 102 MTV | Cribs | Cribs | Cribs | Cribs | After | MTV News | Made "Hockey Player" | | Cribs |

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GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt
Read Kenya, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

**Kanye's mother's surgeon sentenced**
The plastic surgeon who operated on Kanye West's mother the day before she died has been sentenced to a year in jail for drunken driving, according to the Associated Press. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

# Going Out

## Mix of Six

**HOT & HAPPENING WEEKEND EVENTS AROUND THE CITY**
For more great events around the city, visit: **metronews.ca/entertainment**

### Salsa Explosion!

When: Friday, Saturday, 8 p.m.
Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall, EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts, 205 – 8 Ave. SE

The Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra gets their Latin groove on for Salsa Explosion! The orchestra promises a night of red-hot rhythms from South America including the music of Latin music king Tito Puente. Tickets are available from the CPO box office at 403-571-0849.

### Fiddler on the Roof

When: Friday 7 p.m., Saturday 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., 2 p.m. Sunday
Where: Art Gallery of Calgary

Travel back in time to 1905 Tsarist Russia all weekend as Front Row Centre Theatre debuts their rendition of Fiddler on the Roof. Tickets are $21.75 for adults and $18.75 for students and seniors.

### Motorcycle Show

When: Friday 12 p.m.-9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Where: Roundup Centre, 20 Roundup Way SE

Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines at the Calgary Motorcycle Show. The exhibition features over 30 motorcycle manufacturers and events like the Motor Madness Stunt Show, where the Canadian Chaos Stunt Team performs jaw-dropping tricks and stunts.

### Trailer Park Boys

When: Saturday, 9 p.m.
Where: Blackfoot Inn and Casino, 5940 Blackfoot Tr. SE

Calling all trailer park trash — the Trailer Park Boys bring their comedic routine to Calgary. The show is for those 18 years or over only, and tickets are $51.45.

### Scottastrophe

When: Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.
Where: Martha Cohen Theatre at the EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts, 205 – 8 Ave. SE

See what has been called "the best use of powerpoint ever" as Scott Thompson presents a twisted multimedia presentation in Scottastrophe, part of One Yellow Rabbit's annual High Performance Rodeo. Tickets are $32.

### Stargazing

When: Saturday, 8 p.m.-11 p.m.
Where: University of Calgary's Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, 2500 University Dr. NW

Find out the mysteries of the universe. Director Phil Langill will be fielding all questions during the observatory's open house. Tickets are $20 per car; dress warmly and bring flashlights.

# Beatles podcasts shut down

**MUSIC** Norway's national broadcaster has pulled a series of 212 podcasts each featuring a different song by the Beatles. The podcasts would have essentially constituted giving away the entire Beatles catalog for free.

Although the band's music has not been licensed for the Internet, NRK said on Tuesday that its 2007 radio series Our Daily Beatles would be made available as a free podcast. Each installment features the story behind a Beatles track; a version without music ran as a podcast in 2007.

The broadcaster planned to make all 212 episodes available by the end of the month, but 14 episodes were briefly made available to download. It then emerged that NRK's rights agreement with music-label trade group IFPI allows only podcasts from shows broadcast in the previous four weeks. **REUTERS**

### Beatles response

• The website examiner.com posted the following statement from the Beatles' Apple Corps Ltd.: "It has recently been reported that (NRK) will make Beatles music available for download via a series of podcasts. These podcasts are not authorized by Apple Corps Ltd."

## Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

**1 Batman**
The people have voted and The Dark Knight swept through the People's Choice Awards. The latest Batman movie picked up all five awards it was nominated, including favourite movie.

**2 Revamped Golden Globe statue**
The Golden Globe statue has a new look. The new statuettes were unveiled at a press conference on Tuesday, which Society Awards headed to make it sturdier and more visually appealing. The Golden Globe Awards will be on this Sunday.

**3 Fight on New Year's**
Lindsay Lohan and Samantha Ronson rang in the New Year with a bang, literally. The two stars were seen fighting at Miami International Airport over the holidays before flying back to L.A., reports tmz.com. It's been brewing that the two broke up, but Lohan denies it.

**4 Daredevil couple's baby**
The media is abuzz with news of Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck's newest addition to the family. Their second daughter was born Tuesday in Los Angeles, reports people.com. The pregnancy was confirmed by the couple in August.

**5 No Angie vs. Jen?**
Brad Pitt has announced that there is no feud happening between his current girlfriend and ex-wife, reports intouchweekly. com. He says Jen is still a part of his life and that they "check in" with each other.

**6 Twilight's next movie**
For Twilight fans the cast for the sequel, New Moon, are trickling in. Everyone's favourite vampire Robert Pattinson will be back, as well as Kristen Stewart, reports people.com. The movie is scheduled for release this fall.

**7 Celebrity Apprentice '09**
Donald Trump is back with another new round of celebrities in the second season of this show, reports tvguide.com. Guests include comedian Tom Green, musician Clint Black and Olympian Scott Hamilton.

# Time is critical in Watchmen ruling: Studio

**FILMS** Jan. 20 could be D-day in the Watchmen dispute between Fox and Warner Bros.

Or rather I-day, when the studios have agreed to let a judge decide whether to issue an injunction against the superhero film's scheduled March 6 release by Warner Bros.

But Warners is asking that the hearing be moved up to as early as Monday because "time is critical," the studio argues in papers filed this week. The studio must soon commit tens of millions of dollars in marketing for a film it isn't sure it can release.

The injunction fight stems from U.S. District Court Judge Gary Feess' Christmas Eve preliminary ruling that Fox has a right to distribute the Zack Snyder adaptation of the popular graphic novel. Feess found that producer Lawrence Gordon failed to acquire Fox's entire interest in Watchmen after the studio abandoned the project a decade ago.

The studios are now fighting over whether that decision allows Fox to stop the film's release or whether the parties should proceed to a trial over monetary damages.

Warners claims claims it has spent more than $150 million US to make and market the film in a "carefully choreographed" plan to pique moviegoer interest. Barring the release would do grave damage to Warners and third parties like exhibitors who are counting on the movie, the studio argues.

Fox claims that Warners' infringement of its rights entitles it to stop the release. **REUTERS**

**Reality stars take over Mother episode**
TV reality stars Heidi Montag, Spencer Pratt, Kendra Wilkinson and Kim Kardashian, left, will make appearances on the Jan. 12 episode of How I Met Your Mother. EONLINE.COM

# Celebrity Buzz

## No Gossip Girl role for Nicole

**CAREER** Sorry Upper East Siders: Nicole Richie won't be joining the cast of Gossip Girl any time soon, usmagazine.com says.

Richie's rep tells the website that it's "not true" she's planning to guest star on the CW show. Rumors began after a New York newspaper reported that Richie "loves Gossip Girl and she wants a really b—hy, juicy role."

Richie played a bully on NBC's Chuck earlier this season. She's currently focusing on her House of Harlow jewelry line.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Piven's illness may be fishy

**CAREER** The folks behind Jeremy Piven's aborted Broadway run in Speed the Plow may be looking to recoup their investment. Piven abruptly left the show last month because of "mercury poisoning" from eating too much sushi. To the investors, the whole thing sounds fishy, according to the New York Post.

Producers for the show revealed that Piven has been examined by another doctor to get a second opinion, and if it turns out he's playing sick, they may be able to "squeeze some money out of him," a source said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Amy serenades fling

**RELATIONSHIP** Amy Winehouse serenaded her new man in a hotel bar on Wednesday, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The troubled singer dedicated her impromptu performance to budding actor Josh Bowman at a Caribbean hotel bar.

A guest at the hotel revealed: "When she finished playing, she rushed over to Josh and was hugging and kissing him. Her voice was amazing. Josh was obviously impressed. They were all over each other."

Amy played the piano and sang to the 25 guests in the early hours of Wednesday morning.

Josh, 21, has denied rumours he is romantically involved with the married star after pictures of the couple cuddling in St. Lucia were published this week.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

# ScarJo's unusual Spice Girl goals

**PEOPLE** Scarlett Johansson is a "Stay-at-home-and-veg Spice," reports femalefirst.co.uk

The 24-year-old actress admits she felt terrible watching husband, Canadian Ryan Reynolds, compete in the New York Marathon last year because she doesn't have the energy to do it herself.

She said: "I went to some random spot and saw everybody going past. It was really incredible. I'm a horrible runner — I can barely put one foot in front of the other.

"I saw that Jennifer Lopez did a triathlon and I'm like, 'Damn, girl, you just had twins!' It's amazing."

Referring to the nicknames the Spice Girls gave themselves — Posh Spice, Ginger Spice, Sporty Spice, Baby Spice and Scary Spice — Scarlett added: "I'm so not a Sporty Spice — I'm a stay-at-home-and-veg Spice."

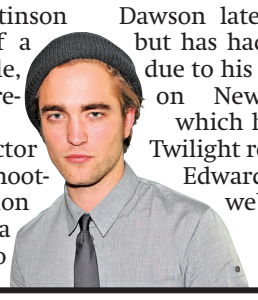
METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Pattinson pulls out of planned role

**CAREER** Robert Pattinson has pulled out of a planned movie role, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The British actor was due to start shooting Parts per Billion alongside Olivia Thirlby and Rosario Dawson later this month but has had to withdraw due to his commitments on New Moon, in which he reprises his Twilight role as vampire Edward Cullen, the website says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



# King of Bel Air?

**PEOPLE** Bel Air has a new, not-so-fresh prince, eonline.com reports.

Michael Jackson is currently holed up in the tiny Los Angeles neighborhood after inking a year-long lease on a $100,000 US-per-month French chateau built in 2002, the website says.

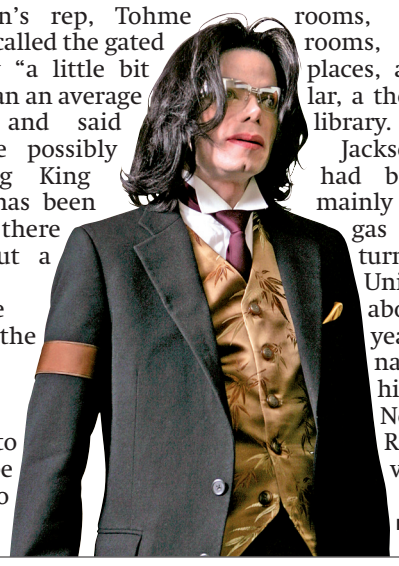
Jackson's rep, Tohme Tohme, called the gated property "a little bit more than an average home" and said that the possibly returning King of Pop has been living there for about a month.

Thome said the Thriller singer moved back to L.A. to be closer to Hollywood and showbiz in general.

"He might want to build his own dream house, although the real estate market isn't very good right now," Tohme told the Los Angeles Times, which reported that Jackson's current digs are a French chateau with seven bedrooms, 13 bathrooms, 12 fireplaces, a wine cellar, a theater and a library.

Jackson, who had been living mainly in Las Vegas since returning to the United States about two years ago, finally let go of his idling Neverland Ranch in November.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



# Mario dishes on his first kiss with Fergie

**PEOPLE** While Stacy (Fergie) Ferguson and actor Josh Duhamel make final preparations for their weekend nuptials, Extra host Mario Lopez can't wait to share in their happy day, people.com reports.

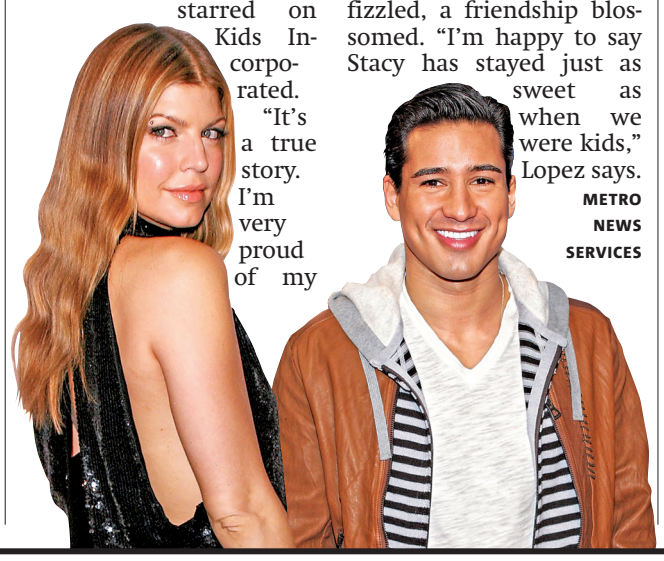
And Lopez has a special bond with Fergie: Both were one other's first kiss in the '80s, when they starred on Kids Incorporated.

"It's a true story. I'm very proud of my first kiss," says Lopez. "She says there was no tongue!"

But there was a romance, albeit brief, for the youngsters. "I wrote her a note and, as she likes to point out, I was very smooth at 10 because I bought her perfume," Lopez says, laughing. "I think the gesture was pretty good for a kid."

Once the young romance fizzled, a friendship blossomed. "I'm happy to say Stacy has stayed just as sweet as when we were kids," Lopez says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## I'll find Mr. Right, Ellen tells Anne

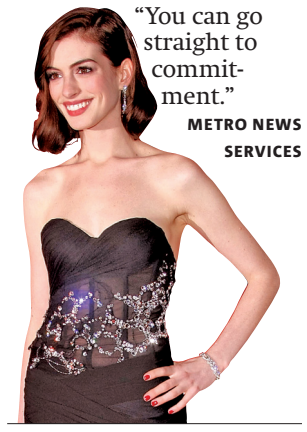
**PEOPLE** Having tiptoed around her dating life, Anne Hathaway was cornered by Ellen DeGeneres on the subject of Mr. Right, people.com reports.

"If you need someone, I will find you a boyfriend," the TV host told the actress on the Ellen DeGeneres Show. "I'm really good at it."

"Did you see how nervous I just got?" responded Hathaway.

"You don't even have to date," advises DeGeneres. "You can go straight to commitment."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## Kidman can't watch own films

**PEOPLE** Nicole Kidman can't bear to watch herself onscreen. The actress claims the only films of hers she has watched are those directed by Baz Luhrmann. "I saw Moulin Rouge. I've really only seen (Moulin Rouge) and (Australia) in my whole career," Kidman told Australian radio station 2dayFM. "It gets worse as I get older."

Kidman recounted how uncomfortable the Australia premiere made her: "I can't look at this movie and be proud of what I've done ... It's just impossible for me to connect to it emotionally at all."

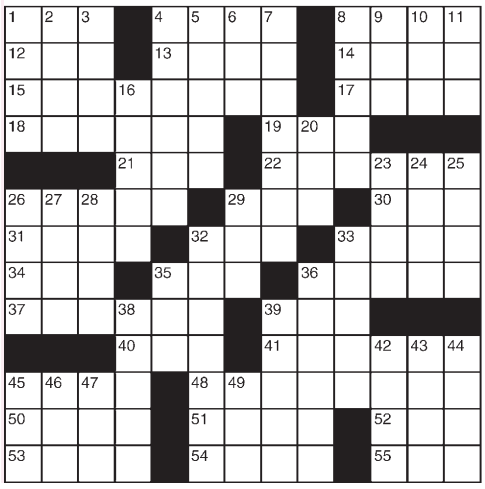
METRO NEWS SERVICES

**Today** Partly cloudy -5 C / -16 C
**Saturday** Mostly cloudy 1 C / -9 C
**Sunday** Partly cloudy -3 C / -7 C

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

**Andrew Schultz, Weather Specialist – Breakfast Television**
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta." WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.

# Take Five



## Crossword across

1 Wool wearer
4 Out of harm's way
8 Forehead
12 Prune
13 Mountain goat
14 Discourteous
15 Somewhat buried (in)
17 Prayer closer
18 Breastbones
19 Legislation
21 Jewel
22 Dormant
26 Mixed metal
29 Marceau character
30 One of the kin
31 "Give a —, don't pollute"
32 Oppositionist
33 Minor players
34 Past
35 Candle matter
36 Hiawatha's craft
37 Flock loser
39 Scratch
40 Pod occupant
41 Wears away
45 Poolroom supply
48 Road Runner's call
50 Frizzy do
51 Tardy
52 Microbrewery output
53 Verse
54 Formerly, formerly
55 Big Apple letters

## Crossword down

1 Benevolent herd?
2 Refuses to
3 Duel tool
4 Director Lumet
5 Perpendicular, at sea
6 Retainer
7 Clarify
8 Barroom set-to
9 Pirates' quaff
10 "— on a Grecian Urn"
11 Rune equivalent to a W
16 Grain disease
20 Cleo's slayer
23 Black, to Browning?
24 Therefore
25 Sit for a shot
26 Moby's pursuer
27 Trademark symbol
28 Aerobatic maneuver
29 Carton
32 Skilled
33 Ersatz chocolate
35 Teensy
36 Kidderminster, e.g.
38 — salts
39 Bumps into
42 Campus VIP
43 Slithery
44 Detail, for short
45 Upper limit
46 E.T.'s vessel
47 Before
49 Corn spike

## Sudoku

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 9 | 5 | | 2 | 3 | | |
| 1 | | 5 | | | | 4 | 6 | |
| | | | | 6 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | 7 | 3 | 2 | | 5 |
| 9 | | | | | | | | 8 |
| 5 | | 8 | 2 | 1 | | | | |
| | | | 3 | 9 | | | | |
| | 5 | 4 | | | | 6 | | 9 |
| | | 7 | 4 | | 5 | 8 | | |

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | N | N | E | ■ | C | O | W | S |
| C | O | O | L | ■ | A | H | O | Y |
| T | E | D | D | A | N | S | O | N |
| S | L | E | E | V | E | ■ | C | R |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | R | E | ■ | A | P | H |
| L | I | E | S | ■ | T | W | O | ■ |
| O | L | D | ■ | ■ | A | F | T | ■ |
| B | L | O | W | ■ | M | U | S | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | N | O | B | E | L | ■ | A |
| S | T | E | N | O | ■ | ■ | A | L |
| U | R | I | ■ | N | E | D | B | E |
| B | I | L | ■ | E | R | I | E | ■ |
| S | O | L | ■ | S | A | N | D | ■ |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | M | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | E | V | E | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | O | W | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| R | A | W | L | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | F | S | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| I | R | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| D | R | O | P | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | L | M | O | S | T | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| N | E | D | E | A | T | T | Y | ■ |
| E | R | I | E | ■ | S | T | E | P |
| S | A | N | D | ■ | K | O | T | O |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| 2 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 3 |
| 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 1 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| 5 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
| 6 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 1 |

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

**SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:**
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

## Metro Recipe of the Day

### Mackerel with Dill Mayonnaise

**INGREDIENTS:**
A small bunch of fresh dill
1 1/2 lb (680 g) new potatoes
Salt
1 tsp (5 ml) mixed peppercorns
Oil for greasing
4 mackerel fillets, 6 oz (170 g) each
4 tbsp (60 ml) mayonnaise
4 tbsp (60 ml) natural Greek yogourt
1 tbsp (15 ml) capers

**GARNISH:**
1 lemon

**METHOD:**
1. Put kettle of water on to boil. Rinse and dry dill, remove fine fronds from stalks, and set both aside separately.
2. Scrub new potatoes and put into large saucepan with some salt and the dill stalks. Cover potatoes with boiling water from kettle, return to boil, and cook for 15–20 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, preheat grill to high. Crush peppercorns with mortar and pestle or rolling pin. Lightly oil grill rack, lay fillets on it, skin sides down, and sprinkle with peppercorns.
4. Grill fillets for 5 minutes, then turn over, reduce heat to medium, and grill for another 5 minutes, or until skins are blistered. Turn over once more and grill for a further 2 minutes.
5. While fish is cooking, blend mayonnaise and yogourt in a bowl. Chop dill fronds and capers, and mix in. Cut lemon into wedges and set aside.
6. When mackerel is cooked, sprinkle flesh sides with salt. Drain potatoes and remove dill stalks. Serve mackerel with potatoes, dill, mayonnaise and lemon wedges.

**SERVES 4**

**rd.ca**
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

## Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

**ARIES** ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Concentrate on solving a confidentiality issue. Be kind to a worryingly inconsistent person. Accusations about excessive spending will disturb you.

**TAURUS** ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Being protective will provoke an odd response. Someone's complaints will be irritating. Turning down a greedy relative gives you self-respect.

**GEMINI** ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't thwart any plans to make money. A cantankerous guy leaves annoying messages. Things will fall into place at home.

**CANCER** ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Use good manners with an insatiable friend. Listening well takes care of a problem. An opportunity is discovered by mistake.

**LEO** ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You'll be the winner of a battle with bureaucracy. A private rendezvous will be maddening. Take no notice of someone's feigned indifference.

**VIRGO** ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Stand alone if you want to see the big picture. A hypocrite causes a misunderstanding. An intimidating person supports your ideas.

**LIBRA** ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A gloomy guy is working out a solution. A careless observer reminds you of the past. A starving person's trustworthiness will shock you.

**SCORPIO** ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Meditate to understand a tedious caller. Don't take advantage of anyone. A manager can clear the air.

**SAGITTARIUS** ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
A persuasive guy inspires a spectacular argument. An older person will disturb your sleep. Hope arises for a daring action.

**CAPRICORN** ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You can help a secretly sad woman. Don't buy new computer equipment yet. You'll face a standoff with an ailing person.

**AQUARIUS** ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
A word of encouragement will perk you right up. A friend will tell you anything at this point. The chance of a lifetime will be presented.

**PISCES** ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A futuristic vision is at stake. You'll inspire some good ideas. A man's back-stabbing words will be held up to ridicule.

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